

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2450.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1874.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

## LONDON SCHOOL of MEDICINE for WOMEN,

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Dean of the School: Mr. A. T. Norton, vice Dr. Anstie, deceased.

The WINTER SESSION of 1874-75 will open on October 12th, and will comprise Classes in Anatomy, Practical Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry.

For further particulars apply to the DEAN of the School.

EMMA HEATON, Secretary.

## UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

SESSION 1874-75.  
The SESSION will be OPENED on TUESDAY, 3rd of NOVEMBER, at Twelve o'clock, when an ADDRESS will be delivered by the PRINCIPAL.

The UNIVERSITY CLASSES will meet as follows, daily, unless otherwise specified:—

### I.—ARTS.

Commencing WEDNESDAY, 4th of November.	Hours	Professors.
Humanity, Junior.....	8 and 11 A.M.	
" Senior.....	9 A.M. and 1 P.M.	Mr. Ramsay.
" Private.....	1 P.M. Mon. Wed.	
Greek, Junior, Tyroses.....	12 noon.....	
" Senior, Prospective.....	8 A.M. and 2 P.M.	Mr. Lushington.
" Private.....	2 P.M. ....	
Logic and Rhetoric.....	9 A.M. daily, and 11 A.M. Mon. Wed.	Mr. Veitch.
" Higher Course.....	1 P.M. Tues. and Thurs.	
Moral Philosophy.....	9 A.M. daily, and 11 A.M. Mon. Wed.	Mr. Caird.
Political Economy.....	4 P.M. Tues. and Thurs.	
Natural Philosophy.....	9 A.M. daily, and 11 A.M. Tues. and Thurs.	
" Higher Course.....	12 noon. Mon. Wed.	Sir Wm. Thomson.
Physical Laboratory.....	9 A.M. and 4 P.M.	
Mathematics, Junior.....	12 noon.....	Mr. Blackburn.
" Senior.....	10 A.M. ....	
Astronomy, Civil Engineering and Mechanics (see University Calendar, p. 43).....	4 P.M. ....	Dr. James Thomson.
Practical Course, Office and Field Work in Engineering (see University Calendar, p. 43).....	9 A.M. Tues. and Thurs.	
English Language and Literature.....	4 P.M. (Jan. 4th).....	Mr. Nichol.
Natural History (Geology, &c. under Faculty of Medicine).....	12 noon. ....	

### II.—THEOLOGY.

Commencing THURSDAY, 5th of November.	
Divinity, Junior.....	12 noon.....
" Senior.....	10 A.M. Mon. Tues.
Hebrew, Junior, Elementary.....	Thurs. and Fri.
" Advanced.....	Thurs. and Fri.
" Senior, including Syriac or Arabic.....	1 P.M. Mon. Tues. Wed. and Thurs.
Ecclesiastical History.....	11 A.M. ....
Biblical Criticism.....	10 A.M. ....

### III.—LAW.

Commencing TUESDAY, 4th of November.	
Scottish Law.....	9 A.M. ....
Conveyancing.....	Mr. Berry.
Forensic Medicine (see under Faculty of Medicine).	Dr. Robertson.

Civil Law (see "University Calendar," p. 52).

### IV.—MEDICINE.

Commencing TUESDAY, 27th of October.	
Chemistry.....	10 A.M. ....
Practical Chemistry.....	10 noon.....
Chemical Anatomy.....	4 P.M. ....
Material Medicine.....	11 A.M. ....
Anatomy.....	11 A.M. ....
Anatomical Demonstrations.....	2 P.M. ....
Practical Anatomy.....	9 A.M. to 4 P.M. ....
Principles of Physiology (see Summer).....	12 noon. ....
Botany (in Summer).....	1 P.M. ....
Surgery.....	3 P.M. ....
Midwifery.....	Dr. Leishman.
Forensic Medicine.....	4 P.M. ....
Physiology.....	Dr. A. Buchanan.
Pathology.....	2 P.M. Mon. Tues. and Thurs.
Geology (in Summer).....	8 A.M. Wed. ....
Mya (Waltonian Lecture) (in Summer).....	Dr. T. Reid.
Clinical Surgery.....	Dr. G. Buchanan.
Clinical Medicine.....	Dr. M'Call Ander-

In the Medical Classes the Session will be opened on TUESDAY, 27th of October.

By Ordinance of the Universities Commissioners, No. 3, p. v. every Candidate required, at the beginning of the Winter Session, to Matriculate, by enrolling his name in the University Register, the Office of the Registrar will be open for the purpose of Matriculation on and after Monday, 19th of October, daily, with the intervention of the Mass at the Sacrament. The Matriculation Fee is £1. for the Academic Year.

DUNCAN H. WEIR, D.D., Clerk of Senate.

Glasgow College, 5th of October, 1874.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

The PROFESSORSHIP of COMPARATIVE ANATOMY and ZOOLOGY is VACANT, through the death of Dr. Grant. Candidates for the appointment are requested to send their Applications and Testimonials to the undersigned, from whom further information may be obtained, on or before SATURDAY, October 31.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

### CHAIR OF PHYSIOLOGY.

This Appointment being NOW VACANT, the Council are ready to receive Applications for the same.—For particulars apply to

J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

### GERMAN LITERATURE AND HISTORY.

Professor BUCHHEIM will commence a Course of LECTURES (delivered in German) on the "Literary and Political History of Germany," on THURSDAY, October 18, at 6 P.M. The First Lecture will be free.—For further particulars apply to

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## BEDFORD COLLEGE, 8 and 9, YORK-PLACE.

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## LITERATURE

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The Preface contains what his son calls "a singular self analysis," written by Lord Lytton, at the age of forty-three, and intended to describe his own deficiencies as a man of action:—

"I am too irresolute," he writes, "and easily persuaded, except when my honour or sense of duty makes me obstinate. I have so great a dread of giving pain, that I have often submitted to be cheated to my face rather than wound the rogue's feelings by showing him that he was detected. I am indolent of body, though active of mind. I am painfully thin-skinned and susceptible; less so than I was in youth, but still too much so. I find it difficult to amalgamate with others and act with a party. The acting man should never be conscious of the absurdity and error which are more or less inseparable from every path of action. I am too impatient of subordination, an immense fault in the acting man. In all situations of command I act best when I have to defend others, not serve myself. I do not possess, or rather I have not cultivated (for no man can distinguish accurately between deficiencies from nature and those from disuse), the ready faculties in any proportion to my slower and more reflective ones. I have little repartee, my memory is slow, and my presence of mind not great. My powers of speaking are very uncertain, and very imperfectly developed. I have eloquence in me, and have spoken even as an orator, but not in the House of Commons. I cannot speak without either preparation or the pressure of powerful excitement. It would cost me immense labour to acquire the ready, cool trick of words with little knowledge and no heart in them, which is necessary for a Parliamentary debater. I might have acquired this once. Now it is too late."

This singular and characteristic confession, which reads much as if it were an *apologia* for a failure in political life, is far truer than his son seems disposed to admit. Lord Lytton laboured with intense industry to make himself a great speaker. At the Cambridge Union, in the days of Macaulay, Cockburn, Praed, and Villiers, he spoke regularly, and "had the ear" of the mimic Parliament. As early as 1831 he entered the House of Commons as Member for St. Ives, and kept his seat for ten years. From 1841 to 1852 he had no seat, but through these eleven years he carefully studied and greatly improved the management of his voice, mastering certain physical defects in it which had at first given him serious trouble. On his return to the House he spoke often, and as late as 1870 we find him preparing a speech to be delivered in the Upper House on the outbreak of the Franco-German war. It can hardly be said of a man who has worked thus indefatigably

that he has not cultivated his faculties. The fact is that Lord Lytton laboured his hardest to make himself an orator, and failed because oratory is a natural gift which practice and study can improve but can never create. "I cannot speak," he confesses, "without either preparation or the pressure of powerful excitement." His prepared speeches were listened to, no doubt, with respect and attention. But they failed to create the effect that he himself would have desired, precisely because they were too carefully elaborated, and were not the direct outspoken words of the heart, but the carefully planned creations of the study, often reminding his audience somewhat too perceptibly of the classical models upon which they had been formed. A man who writes out his speech beforehand—as those at the end of this second volume are written out—must practically learn them by heart; and a speech that is learnt by heart and repeated by rote is not a speech but a lecture,—it may convince the hearer, but it does not carry him away. When, for instance, the speaker calls up before us "that sublime and awful moment when law and order were rent asunder round the fallen throne of Louis Philippe, and murder and rapine, seized with horror at their own first impulse, dropped the red flag of blood at the feet of Lamartine," such phrases smell of the lamp—the ring of them is false. Nothing but consummate acting can make them pass for true metal; and an actor, in the true sense of the word, Lord Lytton never was, although there was always in him a strong theatrical element. Equally polished is, to select almost at random, a second quotation, the peroration of the speech on the Irish Church Bill, which would have been delivered in the House of Lords but for the inopportune intervention of Lord Grey:—

"I would fain believe that the Protestant faith, relieved from whatever invidious character a Protestant Church Establishment amidst a Papal population entailed in its doctrines, will gain more and more in that influence over the mind of man which is the loftiest kind of ascendancy. Instead of selecting the Upas tree for its illustration, I would rather compare it to that Ilex of which it has been so nobly said—

Per dama, per cedes, ab ipso,

Duct opes animunque ferro.

I would fain, too, believe that the English people, having thus amply redressed that which their votes at the hustings have declared they believe to be a wrong, will demand from the Government that strict vindication of the laws instituted for the protection of property and life which their own experience has taught them is equally essential to social happiness and political progress, so that we may approach all that group of questions connected with the ownership and tenure of land, armed with the power to exact from property all its duties, by evincing our determination to maintain all its rights. For my own part, I would a thousand times rather sever Ireland altogether from the British dominions than retain her at the price of admitting into our Legislature principles that shake the groundwork of the wealth of nations, by bungling imitations of an agrarian law. Bereft of Ireland, England might still be strong, strong in the causes of that Protestant ascendancy which she represents in the Parliament of nations. But let her once be false to that integrity which refuses to fighten, to juggle, or to bribe a man out of that which he possesses as his own, in order to divide it among others, on the plea of preventing revolt or disarming assassins, and she will perish amidst the scorn of that civilization whose interests her cowardice has betrayed."

On the other hand, when he was really

roused, or, to use his own words, was speaking under "the pressure of powerful excitement," he forgot, it would seem, his preparations, laid aside his art, and, as often as not, achieved a success almost sufficient to justify his son in claiming for him a foremost rank amongst the ten or twelve best Parliamentary orators of his day. It was when he was not thinking of success or aiming at it, that success came. His greatest speech, beyond all question, is that which he delivered in the House of Commons on the abolition of negro apprenticeship. He carried the motion which stood in his name by a majority of two only. "But it was one of those rare occasions in which opinion has been converted by eloquence in the course of a debate. The speaker was assured, after the division, by three members who had intended to vote on the other side of the question, that their intention had been changed by his arguments." As we read the speech itself, we can even now well believe that this was the case. The cause was one which the speaker had at heart, and his words roll out in a torrent of indignation:—

"When scholars and divines have summed up the blessings that our common creed has conferred upon mankind, first and foremost of those blessings they have placed the abolition of that slavery which stained and darkened the institutions of the Pagan world. I know of no Pagan slavery worse than this Christian apprenticeship. Here, then, we fight again the same battle as our first fathers, the primitive Christians, from whom all our sects and divisions have emerged. Here is a ground upon which Catholic and Protestant, and the wide families of dissent, all may unite; and I do believe that he who votes against this dark hypocrisy of slavery in disguise will obtain something better than the approval of constituents—something holier than the gratification of party triumph and political ambition—in the applause of his own conscience, and in those blessings that will not rise the less to the Eternal Throne because they are uttered by the victims of human avarice and pride."

So ends this magnificent oratorical effort; and, as we read it, we can well believe the story told of the speaker by his son, that after such a speech his small, spare frame would quiver with excitement, and he would reel and stagger like a drunken man. Indeed, he was never at his best but when a strong feeling carried him away and made him forget himself. "In all situations of command," he said, "I act best when I have to defend others, not to serve myself."

Lord Lytton's political views were never an organic whole, save in so far as they were connected by a keen love for the honour and prestige of his country, and a desire for the moral and social amelioration of the mass of the people. By birth, tradition, and instinct he was a Conservative, and a natural delicacy of mind made the more pronounced aspects of Liberalism distasteful to him. But his sympathies expressed the man better than his judgment, and were almost always on the right side. We see him at his best as the passionate advocate of the slave; but it was not on this occasion only, nor in his youth merely, that he showed himself a Liberal. Those who only think of him in connexion with his novels, will do well to bear in mind that to his labours we owe the repeal of the newspaper stamp and the existence of penny papers. It is a strange irony of fate that the *Daily*

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*Telegraph* should owe its existence to Lytton Bulwer. But there can be no doubt on this point, that his incessant labours in the House of Commons hastened on the abolition of the obnoxious stamp by several years, and the debt of gratitude due to him has never yet been sufficiently recognized. Nor was it here alone that he openly identified himself with the just and the popular cause. He did all that he could to advance the law of copyright, and to protect for authors the fruits of their industry. He was the advocate of those very army reforms which a Liberal ministry has since carried out:—

"Root and branch" (we find him writing twenty years ago), "the system of purchase should be destroyed. It is a taint in the very fountain of honour—it is an outrage on common-sense. The present barrier to progressive advancement between non-commissioned and commissioned officers should be broken down. Every man who by bravery, steadiness, and trustworthy qualities, has worked his way from the ranks to the highest grade now vouchsafed to him, should pass by the established rule of promotion to the step of lieutenant. . . . As a corollary from the principle of open competition to merit, the absurd expense of the mess-room should be curtailed. It can be to the interest of none, that a lad, with perhaps 200*l.* a year, should pay more for his dinner and his wine than a man of large fortune, who does not set up for an epicure, would dream of paying for his own if he dined at a club. Every officer should have it in his power to live upon his pay. In one word, the army should have the same fair-play for emulation and energy as any other profession. What would become of the law, if a man who had never read Blackstone could purchase his way to the Bench? . . . You call this a people's war. Make it a people's army. Rely upon it, gentlemen will be no losers. Gentlemen have no cause to fear fair competition in courage, instruction, sense of honour, with men born below them. But at present the best-born gentleman in England has no chance against the son of his tailor, if the last has more money to buy his promotion."

We are not aware that the questions at issue in Mr. Cardwell's reforms have ever been more tellingly or briefly stated than in these few words. So, too, we find him pleading the cause of an open stage, and attacking the then existing system of patents and the authority of the Lord Chamberlain. "I am at a loss to know," he says, "what advantages we have gained by the grant of this almost unconstitutional power. Certainly, with regard to a Censor, a Censor upon plays seems to me as idle and unnecessary as a Censor upon books." Equally sincere is his desire to see the public service thoroughly open. Speaking on the state of the nation, in 1855, he says, after severely criticizing some recent appointments in the army:—

"Let me again impress upon you that it is not enough to subject young candidates to a rigorous examination, to decoy into the public service the rising energy and talent of the country, unless you set before them all the lawful prizes of the profession, and convince them that no one such prize shall be abstracted from their ambition, and bestowed upon gentlemen who, however able, are not connected with the service. If the public service is to be really a profession, it ought to be as monstrous to give one of the great prizes in that service to a man who has not been actively distinguished in it, as it would be to give a clever lawyer the colonelcy of a regiment, or a gallant officer the Mastership of the Rolls."

And, in the course of the very same speech, his fierce and bitter attack on the Whigs

shows how true a Liberal he all along was at heart:—

"Your Cabinets have been one colossal instance of family patronage. You trace your map of office as the Chinese trace the map of the world. The Chinese draw a square; in that square they describe a circle, which fills up all the space except the four little corners. The circle is the Celestial Empire of China, and the four little corners are assigned to the miserable remnants of mankind. So when you come into power you describe round Downing Street your circle; in that circle you place the sacred family of Whigs—that is the Celestial Empire; and to the four little corners you banish the herd of your supporters."

We will give but one more quotation—from a speech delivered now twenty-two years ago—which, to a great extent, vindicates his claim to statesmanship:—

"It is not always the amount of relief given, but the mode and spirit in which it is offered, that allays dissatisfaction, and reconciles those who suffer from the crises which the changes in our national policy sometimes compel classes to undergo. We feel this when we have to deal with Ireland; one Government can often do very little more for that country than another; but it is the *animus* in which the offers of relief are made—the desire to do something—that makes all the difference between the Government which the Irish people are prepared to approve, and the Government which they are prepared to detest. So it is in England. All men are governed by their feelings as well as their interests. Men are not leather bags or strong boxes—but living beings, with hearts in their bosoms and blood in their veins—who can appreciate kind intentions as well as resent the systematic disdain of their complaints."

Thus, then, he was, even in his later years, no Conservative in the recognized acceptance of the word. His adhesion to his party was loose. On any point on which he felt strongly he would vote not with the party whip, but as he felt and believed to be right and just. Perhaps nothing shows the man better than the fact that although at first he by no means approved of the war with Russia, yet, when once the nation was committed to it, he advocated its continuance, and denounced the Vienna propositions of peace as fervidly as if they amounted to a betrayal of English honour. Indeed, a great part of his conservatism was due to the fact that he mistrusted the foreign policy of liberal governments, and believed that it lowered the national *prestige* abroad.

It is impossible to close these volumes without feeling for the man a respect, which his purely literary works alone would never have led us to entertain. We see how full of noble impulses he was, how sensitive to the point of honour, how impatient of oppression, how keen a hater of injustice. Above all, we see how anxious he was to do well, and to be thought well of. "It is more than injustice," he once said, in tears, when a fierce attack had been made on him, "it is ingratitude. Men calumniate me, when I would lay down my life to serve them." And once when distributing their prizes to some grammar-school boys, he said:—

"I was once as fond of play as any of you, and in this summer weather I fear my head might have been more full of cricket than of Terence or even Homer. But still I can remember, that whether at work or at play, I had always a deep though a quiet determination that sooner or later I would be a somebody, or do a something. That determination continues with me to this day. It

keeps one hope of my boyhood fresh, when other hopes have long since faded away. And now that we separate, let it be with that hope upon both sides—on my side and on yours—that before we die we will do something to serve our country that may make us prouder of each other; and if we fail in this, that at least we shall never wilfully or consciously do anything to make us ashamed of each other."

It is sad to think that such a man should not have had what he so sorely coveted, a political career that would have handed down his name for ever. But for the real battle of life he was unfitted. "The 'rapture of the strife,' for the strife's sake, which enables so many English statesmen to 'live laborious days,'—the love of power which made Lord Palmerston find office the best of anti-dyspeptics, — were quite incompatible with a temperament little cheered by personal success, and singularly sensitive to personal failure."

*Penelope, and other Poems.* By Allison Hughes. (H. S. King & Co.)

As first-fruits, which we are justified in believing them to be, the poems of Mr. Allison Hughes are full of promise. They possess both form and colour, they are not wanting in suggestion, and they reveal something not far removed from imagination. What they lack is that singing quality upon which the world now insists in poetry. The pictures are too set, and the style is too ornate. It is not difficult to fancy that paint and canvas would form a medium at once more manageable and more appropriate than words for the utterances of the writer. In the shape they assume, however, there is much to challenge admiration, much promise, and some absolute accomplishment. If the verse moves stiffly, it is because the substance is rich and carefully wrought. That artistic regard for the value of words, which is characteristic of the best modern workmanship, is apparent in every composition, and the ornament, even when it might be pronounced excessive, is tasteful in arrangement.

Of the few poems in the volume, 'Penelope' is the longest. It is, however, not more than a sketch, a background of sea, setting forth the figure of the queen as she plies her shuttle. Each stanza in the early portion commences with the line

She sits in loneliness above the sea,  
the recurrent effect of which is pleasant and musical. Morning, noon, and evening find her at her vigil, and each supplies the writer with a new picture. An extract from the description of evening will show the care of Mr. Hughes's workmanship, the over-elaboration of his style:—

Behold her now that trembling shadows creep  
With soundless footsteps o'er the tranquil earth—  
With stealthy tread athwart the moaning sea,  
And all the western Heaven in grandeur gleams!  
Now, that fair clouds of crimson edged with gold,  
Clear lakes of amber set with darkness round,  
Flashes of blue that fade anon to green,  
Tinges of purple deepening into blood,  
And grim black bars, between whose spaces leap  
Out awful streaks of living molten fire,  
Surround the sun as slowly sinks he down,  
And, dying, dips beneath the heaving waves!  
See! ere the wanling glory pales to gloom,  
With what wild gesture doth she fling aside  
The veiling splendour of floating locks,  
'Mid which the fluttering night wind gently plays  
And how, with wan face lifted toward the sky,  
With white hand motionless, above the loom  
She raises upward sad, beseeching eyes  
That mutely mourn another fair day fled—

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That speechlessly lament a lifeless hope,  
Lying like withered bloom beneath her feet!—  
That fain would track the swift retreating hours—  
Would follow yonder westering chariot wheels,  
Till the wild beauty burns into her breast,  
And wakens all the passion slumb'ring there.

'The Redbreast' is a rather ambitious attempt to do for our red-throated songster what Keats has done for the nightingale and Shelley for the sky-lark. Something like the metre of the famous lyric of Shelley is adopted, but the verses want inspiration and swing of music. One line is happy, the last of the three which follow:—

He pipeth a tune  
Of verdurous June;

'Twas learnt 'mid the roses—'tis sweeter than they!

'Silences!' has a mournful music in keeping with the theme. This poem, and a second, entitled 'Searching,' give expression to that questioning of the ends and aims of life which is one of the common topics of modern verse. 'Tintoretto's Daughter' tells with a certain degree of power a touching story concerning the artist. 'Autumn' is, on the whole, the most striking poem in the volume. The metre is happily chosen, and the words impart to the reader a sense of the dispiriting influence of the season. Even here, however, where the use of language is most skilful, we have a feeling that painting would convey better than words the supreme desolation it is intended to depict.

While admitting the value of much of Mr. Hughes's performance, we are compelled to point out that signs of inexperience abound. Expletives are constantly used to fill out the lines, and the frequent use of such expressions as "doth," "do," and "did," counteracts the impression of care that is communicated by the artistic employment of epithets. Mr. Hughes has the eye of the poet, and some power of clothing his impressions in words. We doubt, however, if verse is the medium he will continue to employ.

#### FAIRS.

*The Old Showmen and the Old London Fairs.*  
By Thomas Frost. (Tinsley Brothers.)

It is almost to be regretted that the old country fair was abolished once and for ever by the Act of 1871. "Once and for ever" is, nevertheless, a term to be subjected to modification. Fairs died hard. Charlton and Blackheath fairs raised their heads in 1872, but were then laid low, never to rise again. Clapham quietly asserted itself last year, but it was swept away as a nuisance, which it was. Still, an expression of regret may be allowed that the Abolition Acts were not allowed to slumber till 1886. A thousand years would then have elapsed, according to tradition, since Alfred introduced into England the then old Italian institution of fair-holding. English fairs have been stamped out, beaten out, kicked out, and pronounced "infamous" by the police. There would have been for fairs a crown of respectability had they been permitted to achieve a sort of millennium, and to have died at the age of a thousand years. Perhaps there was a meaning in the Act of 1871. Just eight hundred years had then expired since the conquering Norman discouraged the over-righteous attempts of his Puritan friends to rob the Saxons of their few opportunities for holiday-making.

After all, those fairs were bad things. They had outlived their early uses, and no bolstering-up could have kept them alive. They began with serious views of business. Traders stationed themselves periodically, once or twice a year, under the walls of towns, and offered for sale what the towns-people most needed; or the traders resorted thither to purchase what they were most in want of; and sometimes both circumstances were found at one and the same fair. The "fun of the fair" was a thing not then known. That, probably, came in with the Church festivals, when high day and holiday were celebrated on the anniversary of the saint to whom the church was dedicated. The minstrels and jongleurs and merry men were to be found at these local revelries, and they soon mingled with the merchants and traders at the business fairs.

The business fair, indeed, has not died out. There are cheese, leather, hop, horse, and other fairs, but they are really markets; the drama, the menagerie, and the freaks of Nature have been eliminated from them. A Yorkshire horse-fair is a place to make Satan himself lose his vanity. He will hear more lies there in an hour than throughout the rest of his realm in a twelvemonth. Hop-fairs, we suppose, retain their old way of doing business. No business at all is done till about the last hour of the second day; when, as soon as one price has been taken as well as offered, hops are lively, all the vendors accept the same price, and the whole business is done in what is popularly known as "less than no time."

Any one who proposes to deal satisfactorily with the subject of fairs must turn to the new sources of history provided in the Calendars and Chronicles published under the sanction of the Master of the Rolls. Sometimes the incidents are curiously akin to the subject. If Mr. Frost had turned over 'Materials for a History of the Reign of Henry VII., from Original Documents preserved in the Public Record Office,' edited by the Rev. W. Campbell, he would have found that one of the "shows" of Chertsey was the royal menagerie, and that the king's lions (not so tame as they are described) were as fond of incautious little boys as their successors are now at the Zoological Gardens. Witness this entry of payments in the King's book:—"To William Gylbert and other men of Chertsey in reward, 'tam pro victualibus, provisis et datis leonibus domesticis regis ibidem, in defectu custodum suorum, mordentibus unum puerum ad mortem, quam pro conductione eorundem leonum usque Turrem London, per avisamentum concilii regis,' 10s." Henry the First had lions and a regular menagerie in Woodstock Park. Henry the Third established the "Lions in the Tower," with other wild beasts, in 1235. Down to the time of many living persons, to "go and see the Lions in the Tower" was the thing to do, especially with country cousins who had souls above fairs. To send people to the Tower to see the lions washed on the 1st of April was an annual practical joke. Probably no lion drew larger crowds to the Tower than King Henry's lion, which bit to death the poor lad at Chertsey.

Some good things came out of the old fairs. There was a time when able actors played in the dramatic booths, and they taught others

to be as able. Mrs. Pritchard, whom many people thought superior to Mrs. Siddons (she certainly was so in versatility), started from Southwark Fair. Edmund Kean, of whose first appearance, as a child in a ballet, on the regular stage Mr. Frost says nothing, was afterwards a member of Richardson's troop. Robson began in the same humble manner, and finished under greater humiliation. Handsome and clever James Wallack (whose real name was Wolfe) first started with those "travelling companies." Finally, there was a little girl in the same sort of company, now retired from the stage, whose name you cannot mention in a Green Room to any couple of stage-veterans who have "dropt in," but one of them will say:—"Sir, I remember her on stilts at all the old fairs in the kingdom"; and the other will rejoin, "I've chalked her slippers for the tight-rope scores of times when I was young."

As long as fashion gave its countenance to fairs, they flourished. Royal Princes used to go to Bartlemy Fair, and make a night of it. Some of the most audacious actresses of the day kept stalls, with glittering knick-knacks for gallants to give to their belles, and gay retiring rooms for refreshment and repose. A few of the suburban fairs kept up a "genteel" character to the last. Some among us may remember Ham Fair, when the common was covered with carriages, and their owners sauntered over the Green, or visited the "shows." Chiswick Fair was a semi-private sort of thing, which died at the touch of vulgarity that blew upon it from town. The four large trees at Brook Green have ceased to know the once rollicking fun of that once famous fair. If they could speak like the trees in Ovid, they would have as wonderful stories to tell. Ealing Fair, again, was a sort of "gem" to the last. It seemed to belong exclusively to the inhabitants. Pretty wood-carving was to be bought at this gathering; and local hospitality was not above asking a poor actor to dinner.

There was a once pleasant suburban fair, called "West End Fair," held not far from Primrose Hill. Some sixty years since it came to a direful end. An organized body of ruffians took possession of the few outlets from the field in which it was held, and made onslaught on men and young women. The papers of the day can alone tell the horrors of that evening; but some of the rogues suffered for it. Jack Henley, the leader, was hanged in his curled hair, his velvet coat, his well-fitting cord knee-breeches, his striped stockings, his brightly-polished high-lows, and was exhibited after execution, at a penny a-head, by his affectionate parents, in a kitchen in James Street, Oxford Street.

Similar bands of ruffians used to destroy all the preparations for "Bartlemy Fair" the night before the opening, if not prevented by defenders as ferocious as the assailants. This mob was called "Lady Holland's mob," Mr. Frost knows not wherefore. Probably, because the market tolls, part of which belonged to the Holland family, were lessened during the time the market was converted into a fair.

In like manner, the ruffianly part of the Woolwich soldiery swept through Greenwich, Charlton, and neighbouring fairs; not after the manner of the French pages at the fair of

St. Germain, — saucy enough, inasmuch as they claimed a right of kissing all the pretty women, — but as mere destroyers for the sake of destruction. Their officers declined to give compensation for the things destroyed. Yet Greenwich died with an air of gentility. In its last days, 'busses left Crockford's and other clubs, the passengers within, as on the roof, being all "gentlemen," the driver perhaps a peer, and the conductor heir to a peerage. This was called humour, but it degenerated into blackguardism, which was not, however, much censured in those easy days, when ruffianism was as much the delight of so-called gentlemen as it was of Lady Holland's mob. Mr. Frost tells us nothing of Missionary Jack, that clever fellow, who, in solemn black, earned his guinea by preaching vehemently against the fair on each morning it was held, and played clown afterwards in one of Richardson's pantomimes.

Nevertheless, Mr. Frost has got together a certain amount of interesting matter as to these old institutions, and the people to be seen there for the paying for the sight. Nelson Lee (son of Col. Lee), the last of the great "showmen," left behind him an autobiography. It was never published, but we have read many a less amusing narrative of experiences of life than the narrative of that truly honourable showman and gentleman.

#### THE WEALD OF KENT.

*A History of the Weald of Kent.* By Robert Furley. Vol. II., Parts I. and II. (Ashford, Iggesden; London, J. R. Smith.)

"MORE than a century has elapsed," says Mr. Furley, "since Hasted, single-handed, commenced his masterly 'History of Kent,' of which the first volume was published in 1778, and the last in 1799. He devoted forty years of his life to the task, and expended upon it a great part of his small fortune. Since his time, very few Kentish writers have been found bold enough to follow in his footsteps; for of those who commenced the work, not one has succeeded in carrying out his intentions." We must say for ourselves, that we scarcely share the tone of regret exhibited in this quotation, as we certainly feel that so far as it offers a kind of apology for the author's own labours, it was wholly unnecessary. The days of the Hasteds, the Ormerods, and the Brays, have gone by, not because the men of this generation are less laborious or have less leisure, but because in these days more is demanded, not only of the county historians, but of the general historian, than formerly. It is no longer thought desirable, or possible, that a writer should avowedly sit down to the task of compiling a history of England, or even any great portion of it, as in the days of Hume and Robertson. Not only his discretion, but his fitness for the task, would be suspected; still more, his appreciation of its real difficulties; so many more are the present subjects of inquiry, so much wider the field of investigation, and so much more exacting is modern criticism. The very facilities to which Mr. Furley alludes as an encouragement for such labours, add not a little to the responsibilities of an author. When the State Paper and Public Record Offices were inexorably closed to the topographer and historian, both had to work upon more limited materials;

now the very freedom of access afforded imposes upon both the necessity of exhausting vaster stores of information. In proportion to the advantages they enjoy, more is expected, — more novelty of treatment, greater precision, more satisfactory and complete details.

Mr. Furley's own book is an illustration of these remarks. He has not considered it sufficient to confine himself either to those subjects or those sources of information with which nine-tenths of the ordinary class of local historians would have satisfied themselves, if not their readers. Of the ordinary printed materials relating to his subject he has made diligent use. In this respect, his second volume shows an advance upon the first. He has displayed more skill in handling and selecting his authorities, more freedom in his criticisms, as might be expected, especially as he advances in his work. Besides a thorough personal acquaintance, derived from long residence, with that part of Kent which he has chosen for the object of his labours, his peculiar occupations have thrown open to him sources of information not generally accessible to the local historian. In no county of England are the legal and manorial peculiarities more remarkable than those of Kent; none has more exercised the ingenuity of the lawyer and antiquarian. In no county has the Church exercised so great an influence, or so effectually counterbalanced the territorial aristocracy. It is fortunate, therefore, for Mr. Furley, that besides possessing intimate local knowledge, he has legal attainments and occupations which made him familiar with the usages of manorial courts, and enabled him to turn to excellent account his intimate acquaintance with ancient rolls and muniments. By his familiar knowledge of these subjects, he has been able to throw a flood of light on obscure and disputed questions. He has disposed of dubious theories. He has given their *quietus* to the flimsy theories of the late Mr. Kemble, which, strangely enough, have found countenance among authors of eminence which they little deserve. Had he done no more, Mr. Furley would have done good service to English history in general, by showing how vague and inaccurate are the foundations upon which that brilliant but shallow author was often inclined to rest the gravest assumptions.

But the value of Mr. Furley's labours is greatly enhanced by the free use he has made of the materials preserved at the Record Office, and by his researches among the State Papers. Copious extracts from the Hundred Rolls, the early Plea Rolls, and equally authentic documents, have enabled him to present a minute picture of the Weald and its inhabitants, their disputes and their doings, for which we should look in vain from the general historian. It is by such careful and laborious investigations as these that readers are enabled to realize for themselves the condition of rural society in England; to correct the vague and often inaccurate descriptions of national life and manners in remote places and periods. It is chiefly from such books as these that not only the necessary checks and modifications must be supplied to the vague and unqualified statements of the political and constitutional historian, but it is also by these that we arrive at a more just conception of the undergrowth of the national life. It is in local histories,

manners, and usages, we have to trace how the thews and sinews of this nation grew and were knit together; how men lived with their neighbours; what were their pursuits; what their training in the obscurity of private life and in the fields of England, which fitted them for the task of welding into one vast and compact empire the heterogeneous elements of which this nation is composed. If to the philosopher it has now become the most attractive of all pursuits to trace the physical order of material things from their most elemental beginnings, and if from those elemental beginnings he hopes to determine all their future development, the historian is now beginning to find the necessity of a similar process in his own peculiar sphere. At all events, if he is to be rewarded by results which have attended the scientific explorer of the facts of nature, he must leave, for a time, the big and trodden highway of history, and strike into its remoter by-paths by the help of such facts and such information as only the local investigator can supply.

In this second volume Mr. Furley takes his reader through the history of the Weald from the death of King John to recent times. He has, accordingly, to touch, at various points, on great national events, and discuss a variety of political topics. The proximity of Kent to the metropolis and the Court of the Sovereign, and the sturdy independence of its inhabitants, brought it more completely within the influence of every popular movement, whether religious or political, than any other of the southern counties. It was implicated in the wars of the Barons under Simon de Montfort. The insurrections of Wat Tyler and Jack Cade are connected with its local history. Here also the Cornish rebels endeavoured to find refuge, under Henry the Seventh. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, Kent supplied the most obstinate opponents to the royal subsidies, and to Wolsey, the supposed adviser of the measure; and it is obvious that the dread of a Kentish insurrection, more than the threats of the insurgents to sink the Cardinal in a leaky boat at sea, induced the King and his minister to relent. It was in Kent, and in Kent only, that Wyatt's rebellion against Mary Tudor assumed a formidable character. It was the Kentish royalists who endeavoured, in 1648, to retrieve the ruined fortunes of Charles the First without success, although, it must also be admitted, that from the opposite party in the same county went up a "burning" petition, very numerously signed, desiring Parliament that "the trial of Charles Stewart, King, &c. (sic) may be vigorously prosecuted." It was at Faversham that James the Second was discovered in his attempted flight to France; and it was from this place that he addressed a letter to the Earl of Winchelsea, which Mr. Furley has inserted, for the first time, in his Appendix. These are some of the more general events touched upon in the course of Mr. Furley's work, and he has not failed to avail himself of the latest and most trustworthy information respecting them, often scattered about, like most precious relics, in the *Proceedings of Archaeological Societies*, in modern reviews, or out-of-the-way publications. And to most of these subjects Mr. Furley has added fresh touches or vivid incidents, or placed that which is questionable on a better footing.

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On the local industrial employments and interests of the Weald he has collected much useful information. The cloth manufactures, the iron-works, the fulling-mills, the establishment of the Flemings at Cranbrook and elsewhere, the fisheries, improvements, drainage and reclamation of the Weald, and kindred subjects, are examined and described with no little research and discrimination. That upon the various tenures of land and legal customs of Kent he should have much to say, and be able to correct the erroneous notions of other writers, is no more than might be expected, as we have hinted already, from the author's intimate local knowledge and his peculiar occupations. Of these subjects our limits allow us no room to speak in detail; but Mr. Furley's observations on the Denes of the Weald, of which he has traced 470, whilst Kemble professed to find no more than 25 altogether in Kent and Sussex,—his remarks on the origin and formation of boroughs, of parishes, and their relations to manors,—may be recommended to our readers. These subjects are confessedly among the most difficult and disputed of all archaeological problems; and Mr. Furley may justly claim the credit of solving the difficulties connected with them, so far as that solution, at present, is possible.

In conclusion, we can only wish that all counties were as fortunate as Kent in their historians. It is a comfort to take up a handy book, in three moderate-sized volumes, containing so much valuable and readable information, instead of having to sink under four or five ponderous and elephantine folios, in which hitherto it has been the orthodox fashion for the local historian to present the results of his labours. If two or three men could be found in every county, like Mr. Furley, to illustrate that portion of it with which they were familiar, in portable and moderate volumes, no better service could be done for the history of the English people—no better help could be provided towards elucidating our manners, our laws, the growth of our political institutions, the relations of all classes of which this great commonwealth is composed. We are the more anxious on this point, because the greater facilities of intercourse, the press, the railroad, and the steamer, are rapidly obliterating local habits, customs, and peculiarities; and all traces of them must be lost in a few years without such labours as those of Mr. Furley. Nor can we help thinking that, in the wide extension of School Boards, those who are interested in giving the children of the rustic some taste of geography would do well to take their start from the local geography of the county or township to which such children belong. More geography, botany, agriculture, geology, and, in fact, all the 'ologies, might be taught in this familiar and attractive form than in any other. But for this purpose we want more than one Mr. Furley.

*History of Merchant Shipping and Ancient Commerce.* By W. S. Lindsay. Vols. I. and II. (Sampson Low & Co.)

MR. LINDSAY has combined a practical knowledge of details regarding modern merchant shipping with a vast amount of reading about the marine of the ancients, and now

presents us with two volumes out of the four which he intends to devote to the subject. Starting from the period when men essayed to cross rivers by means of inflated skins, or hollowed logs, the author has, as he has proceeded, omitted no ramification of his gradually widening subject that is likely at all to be of interest to the reader, or that it seems necessary to explain. He has taken pains to illustrate, where possible, the varying shapes of ships at different periods, from the barge-like Egyptian boat to the Venetian galley, from the galleons and trading vessels of the Middle Ages, down to the first rate East India clipper of the early part of the present century. Here especially the copious and exhaustive dictionary of M. Jal has furnished much help, and the mediæval seals of cinque-ports and maritime corporations have contributed contemporary information about rigging, fitting, and general proportions of outline and subordinate parts.

It is evident that Mr. Lindsay has given care and time to his speculations regarding the methods of constructing, manning, and working the triremes and quinqueremes of classical times, but the darkness of the problem has not received much new light from the author's labours, beyond what is due to a collective treatment of the literature of the subject. And this is so, not because Mr. Lindsay is not as capable of arriving at sound conclusions on this particular point as any one else, but because the *data* without which no problem, however simple it may be (and this the one in question is not), can be satisfactorily settled are, in this case, not sufficient to allow of correct solution. Although sculptures (a cast of a particularly valuable fragment found in Athens has lately been acquired by the British Museum), numismatics, and the written testimony of authors and miscellaneous ancient evidences, undoubtedly prove that more horizontal rows of oars than one were employed by the ship-designers of old to increase the rate of propulsion of galleys, yet the propelling of a mass of given weight through a dense and occasionally antagonistic medium demands the employment of far too heavy and cumbrous a lever, far too firm and solid a fulcrum, to admit of the possibility of great length in such a lever. Hence it follows that the highest banks of oars must have been inclined to the water at an angle little removed from ninety degrees, greater length being proportionately required for the oar as the angle is made to become more and more acute, until we overstep the limits demanded by the reveries of an indulgent but ingenious visionary, whose suggestions, printed by Mr. Lindsay in the Appendix to his first volume, would people quinqueremes with Titans of superhuman strength, pulling fir-poles of thirty-five feet long, at least twenty feet above water-mark. It is not difficult to understand that such a contrivance as a pole of these dimensions would be practically useless from the impossibility of working it sufficiently fast; while oars of such length and of slighter make would be broken at the first stroke from the great length of the leverage; and if relays were on board the draught of such a vessel would be enormous. Nevertheless Mr. Lindsay's conclusions are worth noticing, and help to indicate the peculiar, and henceforth narrowed, bearings of the question. He says:—

"All galleys . . . had their oar-ports placed obliquely above each other in horizontal rows. No galley had more than five horizontal rows. Every galley derived its name or class from the number of horizontal rows. All galleys above a quinquereme were likewise classed according to the number of rows. In their case, however, the oblique rows were counted; but in all cases, from the smallest to the largest, including Ptolemy's *tessara-conteres*, each row, whether oblique or horizontal, was a distinct bank of oars, which, like the number of guns, wherever they were placed, in wooden men-of-war, constituted the only basis for their classification."

The maritime commerce of antiquity; the Tyrian trade; the connexion of the Phœnicians, those ancient toilers of the sea, with the "Cassiterides Insulæ"; the intercourse between Carthage and Spain; the caravan trade of Southern Asia and India by way of the Caspian Sea; the navigation of the Nile by the Egyptians; and the varied phases of commerce and marine under the ever-changing influences of Roman civilization and conquest, have been well and fully handled by the indefatigable author, who leaves few points, even those of secondary and diminished interest; unexplored, few questions of history or practice unexamined. The peculiar and powerful influence of Constantinople and Venice upon the mediæval developments of the till then latent powers of wooden walls is treated with great care, and a large portion of the work is devoted to the consideration of the numberless points connected with the rise, formation, and gradual extension of British maritime operations, and the relations of our nation with other countries. It would be impossible, in our limits, to recapitulate even the principal subjects which have afforded occupation to Mr. Lindsay's pen. The number of authors consulted and the collection of references are alone sufficient to indicate that he has spared himself neither pains to become acquainted with the authorities for his statements, nor trouble in contrasting and fairly weighing opinions of others, too often at first sight conflicting. The first volume concludes with the death of Columbus, an event which marks an era in the Middle Ages. 'The Life of Prince Henry the Navigator,' and the 'Select Letters of Columbus,' by Mr. R. H. Major, of the British Museum, whose learned researches into the history of these subjects are well known, have formed the principal groundwork of that portion of the book devoted to the greater mariner; Washington Irving's 'Life of Columbus,' and Col. Yule's edition of Marco Polo's *Travels* have also been made use of.

If we come to point out what has been ill done or neglected in these volumes, it is right that some attention should be drawn, first of all, to the scanty number of original and hitherto unpublished documents which Mr. Lindsay has incorporated in his appendix. It is pretty well known that an enormous mass of original matter exists in the British Museum, and in other similar repositories, relating to the early and middle history of England; and since access to these deeds has for some time been rendered easy by the completion of that long desired "classed catalogue," Mr. Lindsay would have done a service to those of his readers who love to explore for themselves a little, if he had given a schedule of those manuscripts which our national library

possesses, and which form, as it were, the nucleus of all that can be, or is known of these matters. The documents in the appendix are excellent as far as they go, but we think a synopsis or breviate of several hundred similar pieces, while occupying the same space, would be infinitely more serviceable to many a reader than the *ipsissima verba* of a dozen or so. Mr. Lindsay ought to devote the best portion of one of his remaining volumes to this hitherto neglected subject. The next point to be mentioned is the meagreness of the index. An index of fifteen pages is not of the slightest real use for a book containing upwards of six hundred and fifty pages of condensed information, which is at the rate of forty-three pages of text to one page of index. We say fearlessly, that three times the allotted space might have well been spared for what is really the key of the work. But this is a matter also capable of rectification as the work draws nearer to its completion.

The second volume tells the well-known tale of Vasco da Gama, and his varied fortunes. The story loses nothing in the setting Mr. Lindsay has given it, Lord Stanley's translation of Correa's account being followed with scrupulous fidelity. Then follow the adventures of Sebastian Cabot in the services of England and of Spain, during the reigns of Henry the Seventh, Henry the Eighth, and Edward the Sixth. The names and fame of

*Albuquerque* terribil, *Castro* forte,  
E outros em quem poder não teve a morte,

seem to have slipped from Mr. Lindsay's memory; at least, they do not appear in the index, nor did we notice them on looking through that portion devoted to Indian affairs, but there is no doubt that those great commanders, Albuquerque, Castro, and other Viceroy, completed, by their prowess and courage, a work but imperfectly begun by those who had gone before them, we mean the consolidation of the Portuguese, i.e., the first European power in India, an early and important step towards our own holding of that continent to-day. The naval operations of Great Britain, as far as they bear upon her commercial relations with colonies, or foreign countries, are passed in review by the author with much consideration. The institution of a Royal Navy by King Henry the Eighth; the successes of Hawkins; the equipment and destruction of the Armada; the voyages of Johnson and Finner, Frobisher and Drake; the formation of the Dutch and English East India Companies; the enterprises of Dampier, Anson, Byron, and Cook; the gradual up-building of the English Navigation laws; and the unhappy complications which arose between America and England at the close of the last century, form the principal points which have exercised Mr. Lindsay's time and care in his second volume. This care and time, we may conclude by saying, has been judiciously spent in gathering up, from an infinite number of sources, much that is interesting, useful, and necessary in the way of information, upon a subject of paramount importance to such a nation as ours.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*True to Her Trust.* 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)  
*Linley Rochford.* By Justin McCarthy. 3 vols. (Same publishers.)

*The Ground Ash.* By the Author of 'The Fight at Dame Europa's School.' (Salisbury, Brown; London, Simpkin & Marshall.)  
*Queenie.* 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

Who can the people be who write such novels as 'True to Her Trust'? The experienced novel-reader knows the article well, but for the benefit of those who find other things to occupy their time than the study of such unsatisfactory productions as suit the circulating libraries, we may take the volumes before us as a typical specimen of the particular class we mean. Two children, Jack and Enid Leyburn, son and daughter of a country banker, are just left motherless at the beginning of the story, and we find them with a young cousin, Merle Kinnardson, occupying in the first chapter the chief position, which they are to retain all through. We do not complain of this, though, as Mrs. Leyburn's death is only of use in so far, that from it dates the "trust" to which Enid was to be "true," namely, the protection of her cousin Merle, we venture to think that there is a waste of power shown in using so forcible an incident as a death at the outset of a story, merely to explain its title. Beyond this, Mrs. Leyburn's death produces absolutely no effect, except in bringing a certain Aunt Jane, whom Jack and Merle detest, while Enid tolerates her, to take care of the children. Incidentally, we may give a few words from the opening of Chapter II., to show the style which our author affects:—

"Earth to earth. Rattle! Ashes, to ashes. Rattle! Dust to dust." Rattle, rattle, rattle!—So the Very Reverend Archdeacon Hamilton, rector of St. Winifred's, scattering a handful of mould and gravel on the coffin.

This short passage marks pretty clearly a follower of our modern word-painting school, which aims at an impossible vividness of description, and is happily unconscious of its own utter want of power to observe accurately what it wishes to describe, a want shown in the passage we have quoted by such trifles as the title given to an Archdeacon, and the notion of its being the officiating clergyman's duty to scatter mould and gravel on the coffin, or a little further on, by such a combination as "The Rev. Dr. Northcote, M.A." or "assize times, which only occur once in three years," or the one University "stroke" who loses two stone in the first few days of his training, or the other who is to play in the billiard match (how steady his hand would be at the time when that match is usually played!), or his crew who "hang feather," or by a dozen other instances, not a whit less ludicrous than the blunders, which we are all so ready to laugh at, of French authors who talk about "Sir Peel," or make the House of Lords cry "Hurrah! hip, hip, hip." To resume the story. The only other person of importance who appears in the introductory chapters, is a friend of Jack's, Clifton Gore by name, a boy with a "broad fair forehead, off which the golden hair falls in short silken waves," and a "delicately cut little nose, with just sufficient ripple in its Grecian outline to redeem it from effeminacy," and "long laughing eyes of that rare violet blue, and shaded

by lashes long and dark enough to move the envy of a Circassian dancing-girl." This boy, we regret to say, as he turns out a "pretty considerable" scoundrel, the author "loves better than many a better man." By and by, the cousins go to Oxford, where Jack becomes stroke of the University boat (in which capacity he performs the remarkable feat of "wasting" mentioned above), and gets a second class—we rather think, in his "little-go," while Merle reads books of "that accursed school of enervated morals and false sentiment" represented by "the world-known titles of Paul de Kock, Rousseau, Goethe, and Comte," goes rather beyond flirtation with a bookseller's daughter, and gets plucked (or "ploughed," as the author, evidently with a pleased consciousness that this is the right word, at all events, calls it), besides running into debt, and incurring not unnaturally the wrath of his uncle, Mr. Leyburn. About this time, Jack has fallen in love with, and got engaged to, a certain Barbara, or Baby, Delamayne, daughter of a gentleman who is quite a match for others of the persons introduced; for not only did he contrive to be tutor (called also "Master") of Merton after his marriage,—we are, or the author is, speaking of thirty years ago; it might not be so odd now,—but he also managed to "purchase the small and poorly paid living of Hollingwood" without any unpleasant legal consequences. His wife, Barbara's mother, appears to have been "a Trevoil," and the author gives us a couple of pages, besides frequent incidental remarks, on the characteristics of the Trevoils, which remind us of Mr. Henry Kingsley at his worst. However, Baby, being a Trevoil, lets Clifton Gore make love to her, and Jack finds it out, and there is a good deal of melodramatic business. Meanwhile, Mr. Leyburn is thrown from his horse and killed, for no particular reason, as far as we can see, since the story goes on as well without him as with him, and Enid has got engaged to Merle. That gentleman, however, finds his old Oxford flame in Miss Lottie Dynevor, a popular actress, and wastes a good deal of his time with her, eventually giving up the idea of taking orders, in obedience to her commands. This is all reported by a friend to Enid, and so Jack writes an indignant letter to Merle, and the engagement is broken off. Miss Dynevor marries an old French count; Merle dies of brain fever; Baby is burnt in a Paris hotel; and ultimately Clifton Gore marries Enid, as we have all along seen to our regret that he was predestined to do. The only really pleasant person in the book would, in real life, have been Enid. We can see the sort of girl whom the author has attempted to draw, much as we can see what is intended by a child's attempt at a picture of, say, a cow; but the success is about equal in both cases, from an artistic point of view. We have dwelt at more than our usual length on this book because it is a specimen of a school which aims at hiding its own utter want of accuracy and observation under a profusion of minute detail, its ignorance of human nature under a few scraps of Rocheoucauld, and the general meagreness of its imagination under a mass of spasmodic verbiage, to which the constant introduction of references to subjects held sacred by the majority of its readers gives no dignity, but renders it all the

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more offensive. That this school finds any readers is, to our mind, a symptom of a far from healthy state of the national taste and morals.

The same publishers who are responsible for the production of 'True to Her Trust,' have in 'Linley Rochford' sent forth a book so completely unlike it, that to give our readers an estimate of the latter work it would be almost sufficient to put a negative to all that we said of the former. Mr. McCarthy's language is correct and well chosen: the events of his story bear each its due and proportionate share in working it out; his scene is not over-crowded with characters, and those whom he introduces are reasonable, probable, and consistent with themselves. None of them is, perhaps, very new, but it is not given to every one to invent a totally new and yet consistent character; and if Mr. Tunham, the kind-hearted man of eccentric habits and rough exterior, or Louis Rochford, the handsome, selfish, well-educated epicurean, whose selfishness, as it always will do, makes at last a scoundrel of him, or his friend, Roche Valentine, the man of universal abilities, but *manqué* for want of the one "power of taking trouble" that constitutes genius, if all these and others be types with which we are not unfamiliar, at least it is satisfactory to see them once again, well combined, or "composed," as artists say, and playing their parts in the imaginary world of the novel, much as we know they would do in real life. Mr. McCarthy, too, is not devoid of that real power of observation of small things, which many who attempt far greater fullness of picturesque detail want almost wholly. "The man hammering at a huge stone, whose arm could be distinctly seen drawn back to give the coming stroke before the sound of that just given reached Linley's ear," is an instance of one sort; of another is the beautiful girl, without an idea in her head, who "sometimes looked at one with her lips parted by a sweet half-pensive smile, and her small white teeth displayed, and she was evidently going to say something very kind and sweet; and the faint blush dawned and died, and then the eyelids drooped, and the parted lips closed, and the desired utterance did not come"; all of which "meant that Cynthia thought she had something to say, but found on trying that she had not." We will not enter into the troubles of poor Linley, married at nineteen to a man twice her age, in whom she expects and intends to find a hero, or, failing that, an honourable gentleman, instead of which she sees him, as we have said, sink deeper and deeper into selfish epicureanism, until at last even his gentlemanly feeling disappears, and, after being false to his wife in thought for a long time (if such a man can ever be said to be true), he forms a connexion with a girl for whom she herself had done everything, raising her from beggary, and "making a lady" of her. This Linley discovers, and her idol is finally broken. Rochford dies almost immediately after the discovery, and, in due course, Linley marries Valentine, and so, not unpleasantly, the story ends.

The reputation acquired by a lucky squib, which, happening to fall in with the temper of a portion of the British public at the moment, succeeded better than its intrinsic merits deserved, has encouraged the author of

'The Fight at Dame Europa's School' to extend his functions as a self-appointed instructor of his countrymen from the field of politics to that of theology. As yet, however, he has got little beyond the stage of clearing the ground, and we do not quite see what he proposes to plant in place of what he is attempting to eradicate. He has in this and his last work proved, satisfactorily no doubt to himself, that in his own words, modern Christianity is no better than civilized heathenism, and that any attempt to render it so is utterly impracticable. This last theory is demonstrated in the book before us by the history of a little boy, whose father not believing in Christianity, but wishing partly to give it a fair chance, and partly to confute his son, sends him for preparatory instruction to a clergyman, who lets him read no profane authors, nor form any acquaintance with classical mythology. When after four years of this training the boy goes to a public school, he naturally gets into difficulties both with the masters, who object to having questions about the heathen deities answered by long sermons on the duties of Christians, and with the elder boys, one of whom has a valuable statue of Apollo broken by the zeal of the youthful confessor. After three days of this sort of thing, he dies, in consequence of the frequent lickings which his instance in and out of season has brought upon him. We do not exactly understand which horn of the dilemma (it, by the way, is only a dilemma as against believers in "verbal inspiration") the author would cut away: whether he would have us literally give our coat where our cloak has been taken, and so on, or abandon Christianity in profession as completely as he insists we have abandoned it in practice; whether Nigel's conduct or his father's logic is to guide us in the question. Nor does it fall within our province to discuss the point; all we can say is, that the method used might equally well be applied to our social and physical as to our religious life, and with a similar *reductio ad absurdum*, as has more than once been found in the cases of people who have not seen that our whole line of action must be the resultant of forces acting in different directions, and that any attempt to reason as if all but one of these might be neglected is sure to lead us to a point where logic must be laid aside, and escape becomes only possible by the application of the commonplace *solvitur ambulando*.

'Queenie' is a fairly well-written novel of the school of which Miss Broughton is perhaps the mistress. We cannot say it is one for which we have any strong predilection; we do not care much for the sorrows and sentimentalities of the "girl of the period," while she is being made love to by two men at once, who both call her "darling" at the end of their sentences. Nor are we fond of the style which tells its story throughout in the present tense: though this is a little unjust to Miss Mary Demerit, otherwise "Queenie," the heroine and autobiographer, for, at the end of the second volume, the shock of a little brother's death shakes her into the more usual perfect, which, with occasional relapses, she continues to use till the end of her story. There is the customary amount of balls, dressing, tea-drinking, and so on; less than the usual amount of bad grammar, French, and vulgarity; not more

than three or four passages from well-known poets misquoted; and two really amusing children, who are the only thoroughly satisfactory characters in the book, so that we feel personally ill-used when one of them is killed only for the sake, as far as we can see, of harrowing the reader's feelings. Those who like this sort of novel may read 'Queenie' with less disadvantage than many others of the same kind; while what we have said will be enough to warn those who look for something better in fiction from wasting their time on it.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

We have on our table *The Public Worship Regulation Act, 1874*, edited by W. G. Brooke, M.A. (King), — *Indian Famine*, by C. Blair (Blackwood), — *Newcastle-upon-Tyne*, by B. Plummer (Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Reid), — *The Maintenance of Health*, by J. M. Fothergill, M.D. (Smith & Elder), — *The Second Exercise-Book*, by L. Contaneau (Longmans), — *The Intermediate Geography*, by the Rev. A. Mackay, LL.D. (Blackwood), — *Characteristics of English Poets*, by W. Minto (Blackwood), — *Specimens of the Table-Talk of the late Samuel Taylor Coleridge* (Routledge), — *The Lost Model*, by H. Hooper (Trübner), — *The Best of Husbands*, by J. Payn, 3 vols. (Bentley), — *My Picture, and other Poems*, by G. Butt (Houston), — *The Immortality of the Soul*, by the Rev. H. L. Harris (Vallentine), — *A Theologico-Political Treatise*, by G. D'Oyly Snow (Trübner), — *Strivings for the Faith* (Hodder & Stoughton), — *The Higher Life*, by J. L. Briereton M.A. (Bickers), — *Il Divano di' Omar Ben-al Fare'd*, translated by P. Valerga (Florence, Cellini). Among New Editions we have *Brinkley's Astronomy*, edited by J. W. Stubbs, D.D., and F. Brünnow, Ph.D. (Longmans), — *The Army Lists of the Roundheads and Cavaliers*, edited by E. Peacock (Chatto & Windus), — *Memoirs of a Huguenot Family*, translated from the Autobiography of the Rev. J. Fontaine (Religious Tract Society), — *Mornings at Bow Street*, by J. Wight, illustrated by G. Cruikshank (Routledge), — *A Popular History of the Insurrection of 1798*, by the Rev. P. F. Kavanaugh (Dublin, M'Glashan & Gill), — *The Conscript, and Waterloo*, by M.M. Erckmann-Chatrian (Smith & Elder). Also the following Pamphlets: *London Hospitals*, by W. Rendle (Willis), — *The Teacher's Assistant and Key*, by R. B. Alexandre (Kingston, Jamaica, Macdougall), — *Haydn's Dictionary of Dates*, Part XII. (Moxon).

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

##### Theology.

*Book and Its Story*, by L. N. R., 24th edit. 12mo. 4/ cl.  
Christopher's (Rev. H.) *Sermons*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Daily Counsels for the Young, 12mo. 1/ swd.  
Lennie's *Bible*, 18mo. 1/ cl.  
Murray's (A.) 2,220 *Scripture References*, 12mo. 1/ swd.  
Taft's (W.) *Faith in the Blessed God*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Winterbotham's (Rev. R.) *Sermons and Expositions*, 7/6 cl.

##### Philosophy.

Macvicar's (J. G.) *Sketch of a Philosophy*, Part 4. 8vo. 9/ swd.

##### Law.

Farmfield's (W. H.) *Law of Pilotage on the Thames*, 2/6 cl. limp.

##### Fine Art.

Atkinson's (J. B.) *Studies Among the Painters*, 4to. 7/6 cl.  
Lee's (J. E.) *Roman Imperial Profiles*, 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Lessing's (G. E.) *Laocoon*, 12mo. 5/ cl.

Thompson's (S.) *The Old Masters*, imp. folio, 73/6 cl.

##### Poetry.

Taylor's (Augustus) *Poems*, 12mo. 5/ cl.

##### Music.

Jager and Rimbault's *Gallery of German Composers*, 25/ cl.  
Original Christy's *Minstrels' Album*, Book 1, 4to. 1/ swd.  
Weiss's *21 Bass and Baritone Songs*, Book 3, 4to. 1/ swd.

##### History.

Cutts's (Rev. E. L.) *Turning Points of English Church History*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Fuller (T.) *Lives of*, by J. E. Bailey, 8vo. 25/ cl.

Granville's (A. B.) *Autobiography*, 2 vols. 8vo. 32/ cl.

Harrison's (B.) *Memorials*, by C. Vaughan, 18mo. 1/ cl.

Phillimore's (C. M.) *Pictures of Early History of Venice*, 1/ cl.

Townsend's (Rev. G. F.) *Siege of Colchester*, cr. 8vo. 3/ cl.

Trotter's (L. J.) *History of India*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.

##### Geography.

Arctic Experiences, edited by E. V. Blake, roy. 8vo. 25/ cl.

Cook's *Handbook to Venice*, 12mo. 1/ bds.

Geiger's (J. G.) *Peep at Mexico*, 8vo. 24/ cl.



"an assignment on the revenues of India could not be granted him," while hundreds, or thousands even, are lavished on a *Granth*.

The proceedings of the Turanian Section, the time of which was not wasted by a long Address from the President, were altogether of a mild nature; but some pertinent remarks were uttered by one whose observations usually make an unpleasant impression upon the generality of his hearers: here, however, he was happy. Oriental scholars, nevertheless, then heard (not from the person referred to) the astounding assertion that the best way to study the language of a country is, not from the original literature of the people, but by means of the Bible Society's translations of the Scriptures!

I need scarcely refer to the Dardistan lecture and the discovery of the Siah Posh Kafirs and the "Kandia or Kilia race," at the Albert Hall, or dilate on the value or otherwise of the collection; but the Ethnological Section, which met the same day, was occupied much after the same fashion as the others; some races and some subjects received great attention, whilst others were ignored altogether, and the Dards were snuffed out.

The wind-up was quite in keeping with the rest of the proceedings. The Lord Mayor of London is said by a newspaper to have "entertained the Oriental Congress at the Mansion House"; and the Hindoo Pundit and Bombay Parsee partook of the "loving cup," for which deed, the former, if he be not already out of caste, will have to practise, in his own person, the "Hindoo law of atonement" after the manner that so recently puzzled the learned German Professor of Sanskrit at the Poonah College; in which the cow will have a considerable deal to do. The process will not be quite so cheering as the contents of the "loving cup," nor so pleasant as "*a game at croquet*." Fancy a Hindoo Pundit playing croquet! I could as soon fancy an Oxford Professor doing *poojah* in a *dhote*.

In conclusion, I think it must be confessed by Oriental scholars that for practical purposes this International Congress was a farce. Although I attended every meeting, I am unable to say anything about the "splendid collection of photographic views sent by the Government of Turkistan," or the "special contribution of considerable amount" sent by the "Imperial University of St. Petersburg," or where they were placed. As to our foreign brethren, with few exceptions, we have scarcely seen them, and are as much strangers to one another personally as though we had never met at all; and precious time was wasted in pleasure parties and the delivery of addresses, which, however much adapted to serve as popular lectures, were stumbling-blocks in the way of the Oriental Congress.

The peculiar English temperament not having yet recovered from the Russian fever, St. Petersburg has been chosen as the place of meeting next year, not after discussion, for that was not allowed, but by show of hands, much to the disgust of many English and several foreign members. I wish the St. Petersburg Congress may prove more useful than the one just terminated—it could scarcely be less so—but I doubt much the attendance of many at such a distance.

ISHMAEL.

MR. BRYAN WALLER PROCTER—"BARRY CORNWALL."

Two lines and a half in the newspaper lists of deaths this week announce the demise, at 32, Weymouth Street, London, and at the age of eighty-five, of a "Barrister-at-Law and one of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Lunacy," Bryan Waller Procter.

The lawyer and lunacy-commissioner was "Barry Cornwall," the poet, Charles Lamb's "dear lad" of more than half a century ago, and the school-fellow, long before that, at Harrow, of Byron and of Peel. When he was the articled clerk to a Wiltshire solicitor, the young ladies of Calne already asked him for verses for their albums. Procter was a poet before he was a lawyer at all.

Not that he rushed into rhyme and before the public prematurely. He was thirty years of age when, in 1819, he, with modest confidence, submitted to that public his 'Dramatic Scenes, and other Poems,' on the ground that in the former there was something purer and loftier than could be found in the ordinary dramatic writings of the nineteenth century up to that time. The greatest compliment that could be paid to the "Scenes" was paid by Lamb, who asserted that if he had found them in some anonymous manuscript among the Garrick papers in the British Museum, he should have unhesitatingly included them among his 'Specimens of English Dramatic Poets who lived about the Time of Shakspeare.' The critics were by no means sparing of their praise, and "the gentleman of the name of Cornwall," who, at thirty, had deliberately sent into the world dramatic scenes, some of which he had written when he was but a youth, was found to be justified in the perilous course he had taken. "Barry Cornwall, Poet," was a form which sprang out of some conceit of his youthful time. The intended anagram cannot be fairly made out of "Bryan Waller Procter," but the pseudonym, minus the "Poet," has survived, and "Barry Cornwall" is more widely known than Mr. Procter, Barrister-at-Law and Commissioner of Lunacy.

Then followed his 'Sicilian Story' and 'Marcian Colonna,' with some slight hints that the author had other work to do, and would kiss the hands of the public by way of grateful farewell. It was an insinuation made more in jest than earnest, and was made to the poet's especial public; for he had not charmed the ear, or touched the heart, or made drunk the senses of a nation, as the more popular contemporary poets were doing. Rather Procter was at the head of a refined, intellectual, discriminating party,—a party thoroughly in love with the beautiful, and ready to adore its high priest. To a wider popularity, however, he seemed to aspire when he completed his tragedy of 'Mirandola.' The aspiration appeared justified when the tragedy was accepted at Covent Garden. The possible realization was a question hotly discussed by the dramatic public of the day. The production of 'Mirandola' was the event of the season of 1820-21. There were then players who could deliver blank verse, and there was a public with a heart and a head for it. There were capital judges in that old three-and-sixpenny pit; statesmen, thinkers, men of the world, all well qualified to criticize, men who could not have borne the buffoons who now pass for actors.

The production of 'Mirandola,' on January 9, 1821, stirred the town. There was no promise of anything more than a new tragedy by a new poet. That was all; but in those days it was sufficient. The two principal parts were acted, Mirandola, by Macready; Guido, by Charles Kemble. Miss Foote was the Isidora. The success was complete. There are some among us who were then in their teens, and who well remember the "run" of 'Mirandola,' and how the old play-goers asserted that Charles Kemble, well as he had often acted, had never played so well, nor been so thoroughly fitted with a part as "the gentleman named Cornwall" had fitted him in Guido. Marked passages in the tragedy remind them how tears welled up to the eyes when Guido mournfully said to his father, Mirandola,—

— Oh, I will be  
As silent as the grave you've dug for me.

And how the tears again flowed in the parting scene between father and son, at the passage,—

— Oh, father, I  
Am going far—for ever. This cold hand,  
Which now I stretch abroad, towards you,—now,  
You'll never touch again.

One of the triumphs of those 'Mirandola' nights was in Macready's outburst, when he, as Mirandola, discovered the ring he had given to Isidora on Guido's finger,—for the love-story involved these three personages:—

— Now, now for ever  
I cast aside goodness, and faith and love;  
No more to be put on, masks as they are;  
To hide the base and villainous tricks of men.  
Break up the past! All leave us! Oh, bright heaven,

Laugh you in scorn upon me? See! it shines  
Bright through the windows, and the nodding pines  
Shake their black heads and mock me. Shall I swear  
To kill?

The success of this fine play, finely interpreted, did not tempt the author to pursue the career of a tragic poet, but it gave him permanent rank. It ran through three editions in a few months; and, great warrant of success, the author began to be roundly assailed by anonymous adversaries. His subsequent works were often decried because 'Mirandola' had given him a name and reputation. But Procter was in fellowship with those who were best worth the knowing. We need only mention, as proof of this, his thorough friendship with Lamb. In testimony of it, Procter gave Lamb a portrait of Pope which delighted Elia. "Why did you give it me?" wrote Lamb; "I do not like you enough to give you anything so good." In which phrase there lay, of course, the expression of the most grateful of hearts,—one, the feelings of which always found quaint interpretation. After Procter married the daughter of Basil Montague, Lamb wrote to the bridegroom: "And mayest thou never murder thy father-in-law, in the Trivia of Lincoln's Inn New Square Passage, nor afterwards make absurd proposals to the widow Montague. But I know you abhor any such notions. Nevertheless, so did O'Edipus (as Admiral Burney used to call him, splitting the diphthong in spite of ignorance) for that matter."

After 'Mirandola' to the year 1831, Procter produced his 'Flood of Thessaly,' his 'Effigies Poetica,' and his 'English Songs.' Moore generously flung laurels to his brother poet; Jeffreys honestly praised "Barry Cornwall," and Lamb wrote to him, "Facundissime Poeta!"—adding, "Quanquam istiusmodi epitheta oratoribus potius quam poëtic attinere facile scio—tamen, facundissime!" And the epithet was not undeserving. The poet, in 1831, was called to the Bar, but he remained "poet," and will not be remembered as a pleader.

And as a poet, he perhaps will live as long by his lyrics as by any of his works. "The Sea! the Sea!" "King Death" (a poem almost, rather than a song); the joyous "Best of all good company," and such perfect ballads as the "Song to Twilight," and that more exquisite one still, 'The Nights,' will be sung for many a long year after Barry Cornwall's other productions will be only on the shelves of the curious in rare books. The last stanza of 'The Nights' is now appropriate to himself:—

Oh, the Night brings sleep  
To the green woods deep;  
To the bird of the woods, its nest.  
To care, soft hours;  
To life, new powers;  
To the sick and the weary,—Rest!

Among the most favourable specimens of Procter's prose writings may be mentioned his sympathetic life of Edmund Kean, and his last work (1866), his simple and touching biography of Charles Lamb. This book, written in the author's seventy-seventh year, shows that, whatever age a man may be, the pure human heart is for ever young. That gentle heart, that pure mind, that perfect and most happy taste were inherited by the poet's daughter. Adelaide Anne Procter was born a poet. Her mother penned verses from the child's dictation before she herself could write. The parents saw the bud, blossom, and fruit of the Muse, their daughter, and saw all die with her, save her works and memory. One of the happiest scenes in the poet's household has been described by Charles Dickens. "Happening," says Mr. Dickens, in his Memoir prefixed to Miss Procter's 'Legends and Lyrics,' "one day to dine with an old and dear friend, distinguished in literature as 'Barry Cornwall,' I took with me an early proof of the Christmas Number of *Household Words*, entitled 'The Seven Poor Travellers,' and remarked, as I laid it on the drawing-room table, that it contained a very pretty poem, written by a certain Miss Berwick. Next day brought me a disclosure that I had so spoken of the poem to the mother of the writer, in the writer's presence; that I had no such corre-

spondent in existence as Miss Berwick, and that the name had been assumed by Barry Cornwall's daughter, Miss Adelaide Anne Procter!"

It is said that in Persia favourite poets used to have their mouths stuffed with sugar-candy by the Shah. Procter's appointment to a Commissionership of Lunacy was one of those candid circumstances. Perhaps it was conferred on him on the ground that

The lunatic, the lover, and the poet,  
Are of imagination, all compact,

—and that "the poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling," was appropriate to a Lunacy Commissioner. Otherwise, the appointment puzzled people. A more acceptable piece of sugar-candy came to him in one of the bequests made by a minor poet who had amassed wealth—not by poetry, but it was in part shared among poets. Mr. John Kenyon, the author of "The Rhymed Plea for Toleration," left eighty legacies to as many Worthies. The poets included in this number were Elizabeth Barrett Browning, 4,000/-; her husband, 6,500/-; and to Barry Cornwall, also 6,500/- This fact deserves to be recalled to mind, as it may stimulate other Croesus to think of the *piis eates* whose songs have won a smile from Phœbus Apollo.

#### NOTES FROM ST. PETERSBURG.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 2, 1874.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Russian World*, signing himself "a Russian Orientalist," has given an account of the proceedings of the Congress of Orientalists lately held in London, in which he finds much fault with the organization of that body.

One of the chief things which struck him was that there was no effort to procure places of abode for the members, nor were they furnished with tickets at reduced prices on the railways. The writer has been accustomed to similar meetings in Russia and on the Continent, where they are more of an event, and where every exertion is made to be hospitable to the guests. He forgets that London is a large city, where strangers can always easily provide for themselves.

The writer says further that no notice was given of the whereabouts of the bureau of the Congress except in Paris, and that Germans and others found it difficult on their arrival in London to know where to turn for information. That, in addition, the work of the bureau was carried on so badly that many of the invitations offered to the Congress were received by members a day too late, and that no public notice was given of any change in arrangements.

His strictures on the arrangements for the work of the Congress itself are better founded. He complains greatly that each of the Sections had only two hours allotted to it in which to do its work; that they met usually in inconvenient halls, where it was impossible for all who wished to hear to gain admittance, and that even then half of the time was taken up by introductory addresses, which, with the exception of those of Sir H. Rawlinson and Prof. Max Müller, were of no importance to science. In this way there was really no deliberation by the Congress, and no chance for real work to be done or for the results of investigations to be given. The writer says that the first Congress, held last year in Paris, was chiefly for the glorification of Prof. Léon de Rosny, and that it was on account of his prominence in the matter that few of the great Orientalists of France or Germany consented to take part in it. He conveys the impression that this year the Congress was so arranged by the committee as merely to afford an opportunity for some few English professors and gentlemen to bring themselves into view. He speaks even more warmly of the charlatany which allowed persons, not at all known as Orientalists or as interested in Oriental studies, to be considered as members of the Congress; and finds great fault that the official list of members contained delegates from Finland and from Poland. His reasons for this are that Finland is a part of Russia, and that Poland as a political division no

longer exists. It may be that the feelings of the Russian delegation, which protested at this act, were somewhat excited by the fact that the Polish delegate was Mr. Dukhinsky, known for his theory of the Mongol and non-Slavonic origin of the Russian race.

*Apropos* of the remarks of the writer, who is apparently Prof. Grigorief, I may mention that learned societies and congresses here really do more actual work than similar bodies in England. Take, for instance, the Russian Imperial Geographical Society. There are monthly general meetings, and besides that, each of the three sections into which the Society is divided have half-monthly sessions. Here everything is simple. The members sit round a large table, and pay attention to the business of the evening, discuss with knowledge and spirit the papers which are read, and really interest themselves in what is going on. The cups of tea which are passed round, and the cigarettes and cigars which are smoked even in the presence of the Grand Duke Constantine, who is the President, make it seem like a circle of friends. The Society does not appear to be carried on for the benefit of some few men, nor is there any straining for popular effect. Some of the foreign delegates who were present at the Statistical Congress, held here in 1862, must have been surprised, not only by the business-like programme which was offered to them, but by the amount of work which the Congress undertook and carried out. Pleasure is expressed here that the next Session of the Oriental Congress will be held in Russia; but the nomination of Count Vorontsov-Dashkov as President has occasioned considerable comment. He is not a scholar, nor an Orientalist in any greater sense than that he once held a command in Tashkent, and gave Mr. Pashino money for publishing his book on Turkestan, though he is a rich and public-spirited man.

Shortly after the exhibition, last spring, of the wonderful pictures of Central Asia, by Mr. Vereschagin, the Imperial Academy of Fine Arts conferred upon that artist the honorary grade of Professor. Mr. Vereschagin has now written to the *Golos* a brief note, to say that, as he considers all grades and distinctions in art unconditionally hurtful, he refuses to accept this title. It is difficult to see what great harm the cause of art would receive by the honorary title of professor being attached to the name of this able artist, or what injury he would himself suffer from it, and this public announcement can only be looked upon as another example of his great eccentricity. I am told that besides destroying three of the chief pictures of the collection of last spring out of mere pique, on his departure for India he destroyed his whole album of sketches and studies, with the exception of a few drawings, which he gave as presents to friends; and, while at the height of his popularity here, he was so averse to making acquaintances that he did not even allow the print-sellers, who had the agency of the photographs of his works, to know his address.

Mr. Pashino has at length finished his sketches of his Indian journey in the *Golos*, and has again gone to India, having obtained 10,000 rubles from the Cesarewitch. This money was given to Mr. Pashino, I am told, on condition that he should not tell of it; but he immediately related the circumstance to all his friends, and added that he had therupon said to the Grand Duke,—"Hitherto I have been a republican, but now I am an Alexandrite."—"An Alexandrite, what is that?" said the Grand Duke.—"I mean that henceforth I am a supporter of your Imperial house." Whatever Mr. Pashino's qualities as a traveller are, and in some way or other he is always in misfortune, he is, at least, frank and open, and related various incidents about which another might keep silent. Being in one Indian town, for instance, a polite English officer offered to show him the citadel. He accompanied him with great trepidation, and, after the visit was terminated, he told the officer that he had at first been very fearful lest he should be imprisoned there as being a Russian spy. His

friend said to him, "Do you do such things in Tashkent? We don't here." After Mr. Pashino's late revelations and free conversation, I think he is not likely to be very dangerous to the English Government.

A letter from Mr. Miklakha-Maclay, dated at Seram Laut, February 22nd, 1874, states that he is about to return to New Guinea, where he will remain for some months. Going first to the island of Matarella, he will live on the island of Aidumia, where he thinks the climate is better than on the mainland. This time he takes with him two servants; and the crew of the ship conveying him have agreed to build him a house, for which they carry with them the materials.

Dr. G. J. Arkhangelsky has just published a book of importance to sanitary science, which it is to be hoped will be at once translated, "Cholera Epidemics in European Russia for Fifty Years, from 1823-72." The important material which the author has collected and tabulated, literally did not exist before for the general European public. Stored in official bureaux of the provinces, the author had no easy or enviable task to disinter and arrange them. S.

#### Literary Gossip.

IT is strange that, among the thousands of biographies of great and little men which have been produced to meet the growing taste of the public for this sort of literature, no real biography of one of our very greatest men has hitherto appeared. Immediately after the death of John Locke, his friend, Le Clerc, published a short memoir of him in the *Bibliothèque Choisie*, and that sketch, though hardly long enough for a magazine article now-a-days, was remarkably good of its kind. Translated into English, it satisfied the admirers of Locke for a century and a quarter, until, fifty years ago, Lord King published his much more pretentious "Life." Lord King's two volumes, however, though enriched by many valuable reprints and first prints of extracts from Locke's correspondence and diaries, were, as a biography, little more than a badly spun-out reproduction of Le Clerc's article. During the last four or five generations, of course, numerous stray contributions to Locke's biography have been made by commentators on his writings, authors of books on other subjects, magazine writers, and others. But all these need collecting and sifting, and a great deal of valuable manuscript material has never yet been made use of. We are glad to hear that Mr. Fox Bourne is now working at this subject, with the view of producing a careful and exhaustive life of the philosopher.

A NEW poem, by Mr. Alfred Austin, "The Tower of Babel," will be published by Messrs. Blackwood & Sons in the month of December. "The Human Tragedy" will not appear till the autumn of 1875.

IT is rumoured, but we do not vouch for the truth of the rumour, that Mr. Mill's posthumous essays, which will be in the hands of the public in a few days, will show him to have been more orthodox than has of late been supposed. He makes in them, it is said, a profession of Theism, and many people will think that that is something to be thankful for now-a-days.

SIR ARTHUR HELPS's new book, which Messrs. Daldy & Isbister advertise, is a volume in the same vein as "Friends in Council." It will consist of something like a dozen chap-

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FATHER HARPER has in the press, a second part of 'Peace through the Truth,' his exhaustive reply to Dr. Pusey's 'Eirenicon.' The first volume appeared some eight years ago.

THE REV. Canon Jackson, who has been for some time making researches in the Marquis of Bath's Library at Longleat, has succeeded in discovering some valuable documents relating to the early members of the Seymour family, especially the Lord Protector Somerset. Respecting these he lately read an interesting paper, entitled 'Wulphall and the Seymours,' before the Wilts Archaeological Society, which has been reported in the *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette*. Wulphall, in Wiltshire, not far from the Savernake Station, was the ancient seat of the Seymours or Saint Maurs; one of whom Sir John Seymour, who died in 1536, had three children, all of whom became remarkable, viz., Jane Seymour, Queen of Henry the Eighth; Edward Seymour, the Protector, beheaded; and Admiral Thomas Seymour, likewise beheaded, who married Katharine Parr, widow of Henry the Eighth. Jane Seymour was married at Wulphall in 1536, and among the papers found by Mr. Jackson is an account of the expenses for fitting up Westminster Hall for her coronation. There is also an account given of a visit paid by Henry the Eighth and his entire Court to Wulphall in 1539, with a notice of the provisions consumed on the occasion. This is taken from the "Household Book" of the family. None of our historians, according to Mr. Jackson, has noticed this visit. The king and his party arrived on Saturday, August 9, 1539, and staid the Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday following. On the first day covers, or, as the book calls them, "messes," were laid for 200 persons, and on the Sunday there were "messes" for 400 persons. Mr. Jackson has also discovered interesting papers respecting Edward Seymour, Lord Hertford, who married Catherine Grey, sister of Lady Jane Grey, much to the annoyance of Queen Elizabeth; and respecting this earl's grandson, William Seymour, Marquis of Hertford, married to the beautiful and unfortunate Arabella Stuart. We trust that Mr. Jackson will publish these and his other discoveries in some more durable form than the columns of a country newspaper.

MESSRS. BURNS & OATES have in the press a work by the Rev. Father Bridgett, C. SS. R., to be called 'Our Lady's Dowry, or How England Gained and Lost that Title.' It is intended not only to give "information hitherto little known, respecting the piety of our forefathers, but also a body of doctrine about the Blessed Virgin, and specimens of English writers from Venerable Bede to Sir Thomas More."

MR. SCHÜTZ-WILSON, the author of 'Studies and Romances,' is engaged upon a novel called 'Philip Mannington,' to which are to be added two Alpine sketches, called 'Eisleben.'

THE College for Men and Women in Queen Square, Bloomsbury, will commence the Session 1874-75 with a meeting of teachers, students, and others interested in education, to be held at St. George's Hall, Langham Place, next Monday evening. The list of Occasional Lecturers and Examiners to the

College has been strengthened by the addition of the names of the Dean of Westminster, Sir John Lubbock, M.P., Prof. Clifford, Prof. Colvin, Mr. Humphry Sandwith, C.B., Mr. W. Spottiswoode, F.R.S., &c. The Saturday Evening Lectures for the coming October term include one upon 'Ideal Commonwealths,' from Prof. Morley; two from Mr. C. Newton, of the British Museum, 'On the Greek Alphabet, its Derivation and History: the Materials for Writing used by the Greeks,' and 'On Greek Inscriptions'; one by Mr. F. J. Furnivall, 'On Chaucer: his Life and Works'; another by Mr. William Spottiswoode; while one or more "Discussions" are announced to take place under the chairmen.

MR. J. H. INGRAM is preparing a new edition of the works of Edgar Allan Poe. It will include some writings of Poe's that have escaped the notice of previous editors, and occupy four volumes, the first of which will be published in November; the others will follow at monthly intervals. Mr. Ingram's publishers are Messrs. A. & C. Black.

AT a public meeting lately held in the Town Hall of Bombay, it was resolved that, considering the long connexion of the late Mr. James Taylor with the public affairs, the press, and the higher educational work of Bombay, it is desirable that means should be taken to perpetuate his name by founding a prize or scholarship attached to the University of Bombay. An appeal for subscriptions has now been made to the large body of old Bombay people in this country. Mr. Taylor was distinguished for his literary activity, and was the living chronicle of modern Indian history. He is more widely known for the admirable Annual Reports of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce issued during the time that he was secretary.

MR. JUSTIN McCARTHY is writing a story of English and American life of the present time, to follow Mr. Francillon's 'Olympia' in the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

MR. WILLIAM PATERSON, of Edinburgh, has thrown off an impression of 250 copies, in imperial folio, of Capt. John Slezer's rare 'Theatrum Scotiae.' In this edition the descriptions are given in complete form, as in the original of 1693, with the additions contained in subsequent editions and illustrations by Dr. Jamieson, first published in 1814. The list of plates has been corrected according to the complete list furnished by Mr. David Laing to the second volume of the Bannatyne Club Miscellany; and the arms of the nobility to whom the various plates were dedicated, and which were only printed in the first edition, have been fac-similed and emblazoned in heraldic colours.

THE following changes have been made in the administration of the *Bibliothèque Nationale* at Paris. M. Taschereau, Administrator-General of the Library, retires upon a pension, in consequence of ill health. He has been named Honorary Administrator-General. M. Léopold Delisle, Keeper and Sub-Director of the Department of MSS., has been appointed to succeed M. Taschereau as Administrator-General; and M. Lavedan, Prefect of the Department of the Loire-Inférieure, has been appointed Assistant Administrator-General of the Library.

PROF. FRIEDRICH, it is well known, declined, some time ago, a chair in the faculty of the so-called old Catholic Theology, which it is proposed to add to the University of Berne; but he has consented, it is now said, to superintend the formation of the faculty and to deliver some lectures in the first year of its existence.

A PAPER has just been printed by order of the Trustees of the British Museum, being 'A List of the Trustees, of the Standing Committee, and Sub-Committees, with Dates of Appointment, Election, &c., and the Establishment of the Museum generally, showing the Names and Salaries of the Officers, Assistants, Attendants, &c., with the Dates of their first Appointment or Employment, and of their Promotion to their Present Places.' This is a curious document, which proves not only that the whole staff is underpaid, but also that there is often a great disproportion between the remuneration of the officers and their long services, high personal standing, and learning. It appears that Mr. Lowe's graceful sentences about the salaries paid in the British Museum were quite true as to this class.

IT may be convenient for some readers to know that a bronze penny weighs *very* little more than a third of an ounce. This being the case, such a coin may be used to weigh letters intended for France at the current single rate. Care must be taken that the beam of the balance does not decline on the letter side. It is safer to affix the stamps before weighing letters.

MR. JAMES PIERCE writes to us with reference to our review of Mr. Gossip's 'Chess-Player's Manual,' in the *Athenæum* of Sept. 26, and informs us that he had nothing to do with the selection of problems contained in the work. If he will look at the notice prefixed to the problems, he will see that we were not without grounds for our statement. But in any case our censure did not refer to the person who made the selection, but to the fact that out of twenty-five problems, supposed to be representative, no less than ten were from a comparatively obscure composer.

THE next part issued by the Palæographical Society will contain some plates of photographic fac-similes from MSS., illustrating the period of the Utrecht Psalter.

IN these days, when people are forgetting Byron, it may not be amiss, and yet we feel half ashamed to do it, to quote the lines in 'Don Juan' referring to Barry Cornwall. Some persons on the publication, of the 'Dramatic Scenes,' imagined that the author would prove a second Byron, *minus* the "Satanic" element. Consequently, in the eleventh canto of Don Juan, when speaking of contemporary poets, Byron wrote:—

Then there's my gentle Euphues; who, they say,  
Sets up for being a sort of *moral me*;  
He'll find it rather difficult some day  
To turn out both, or either, it may be.

In Mr. Procter we have lost one of the last of those who wrote in the *Athenæum*, when we numbered among the contributors to our columns Charles Lamb, Landor, Miss Barrett (Mrs. Barrett Browning), Hood, Jerrold, Allan Cunningham, Leigh Hunt, Sheridan Knowles, the Corn-Law Rhymers, the Ettrick Shepherd, &c. Mr. Carlyle, Mrs. Norton, and Mrs. Howitt are among the few still surviving of

our contributors of that day. To the first of Barry Cornwall's contributions, his lines 'To the Snow-Drop,' we prefixed, when we printed it, the following note:—

"We wish we were permitted to give the name of the Author of the following beautiful little poem: but we do not doubt that most of our readers will know 'that fine Roman hand.' One might swear to a style of writing as one swears to a hand-writing; and no real poetic reader, put in a witness' box, could help stating, that the following lines were written by—B. C."

THE Report of the Universities Commission was published on Wednesday. The returns are given in an exceedingly elaborate form, as many a bursar, who spent months in doing sums for the satisfaction of the Commissioners, has found to his cost, and it would be dangerous to generalize from the volume in haste. We shall, of course, take an early opportunity of discussing this important Blue Book.

## SCIENCE

*The Transit of Venus.* By George Forbes, B.A. (Macmillan & Co.)

So great and wide is the interest felt in the great astronomical event of this year, the Transit of Venus over the Sun's disc on December 8, that we may confidently anticipate for this book the large circulation which it undoubtedly deserves. Originally a series of papers in *Nature*, it is here reproduced in the form of a neat well-printed book of about a hundred pages, in a shape convenient for the pocket. If it cannot be said of the author (who, not very long since succeeded Mr. Alexander Herschel in the Professorship of Natural Philosophy in the Andersonian University at Glasgow) "quorum magna pars fui," seeing that the event he treats of is still to come, yet there is every reason to hope that, if favoured by the weather, that Maronian expression (*not* its preceding context) will be applicable to him before three months have passed. He is now on his way to Honolulu, in company with Capt. Tupman, who acted under the Astronomer Royal as organizer of all the British parties; there they will separate, Prof. Forbes taking a section of their party to the island of Owhyhee, or (as it is now generally written) Hawaii, famous as having been the scene of the murder of Capt. Cook, nearly ten years after his voyage to Otaheite (or Tahiti) to observe the last Transit of Venus in 1769. We heartily wish him every success, and have nothing but commendation for the excellent little work before us, in which he gives, in a way intelligible to every reader capable of taking an interest in the subject, a sketch of the plans formed by all the nations which are to share in it, for the efficient observation of the Transit of Venus; together with an account of the adaptation of each and all the methods proposed to be employed to the object in view. The cuts by which it is accompanied are well executed, and will assist in giving a good idea of some of the instrumental means of which use will be made in the approaching Transit, as well as of the peculiarities of the phenomena to be observed.

*Flora of Dorsetshire, with Sketches of its Geology and Physical Geography.* By J. C. Mansel Pleydell, B.A. (Whittaker & Co.)

A LIST of plants, however useful, is, in general, dreary reading, and pre-supposes an acquaintance with plants and the conditions under which they grow, otherwise it is about as entertaining as an Index. Mr. Pleydell had a fine field open to him. The county of which he gives a floral census is extensive and diversified, and its floral inhabitants are proportionately numerous and varied. There are few better botanizing grounds than the forest and moorland districts of the New Forest extending westward into Dorsetshire. Between Southampton

and Weymouth there still exist extensive tracts where agricultural improvements have not interfered with the aboriginal Flora, and where, as a consequence, the nature and distribution of British plants can be unusually well studied. The country about Poole and the neighbourhood of Portland are well known to botanists as affording shelter to some of our rarest and most interesting species. Mr. Pleydell himself, we may remark, has added sundry rarities to our lists. The varied geological formation, the large extent of heath, the broad expanse of fresh or brackish water, and the long sea-board, all contribute to give the county a very interesting botanical population. It is, therefore, with some surprise that we read that "Dorsetshire has no very marked features so as to give it a special botanical history." This is certainly not true of the southern portions of the county. To what extent the present work is the outcome of personal investigation we know not, but it has the look of a compilation; for, although we have in the Introduction a brief epitome of the climatal and geological conditions of the county, and a short history of botany from the time of Cain and Noah! there is no attempt, so far as we have seen, to co-relate the facts so summarized with those enumerated in the subsequent census. We have little doubt that the census to which we have just alluded is as accurate and as complete as can well be; but the progress of scientific botany, and the example of modern county Floras, have led us to expect a good deal more than we have got in Mr. Pleydell's "Flora of Dorsetshire."

*A Manual of Botany, Anatomical and Physiological, for the Use of Students.* By Robert Brown, M.A., Ph.D. (Blackwood & Sons.)

WHEN a new text-book on botany is added to the already large number of approved works, we have a right to inquire what reasons induced the author to swell the lists. A reason commonly assigned by lecturers is that they find no work exactly suited to the requirements of their own pupils, and so they set to work to produce one, in the certainty of its meeting with a sale among their disciples. It is to be feared that self-interest in such cases prompts the publication of a new text-book rather than the desire to forward the interests of science. It is, in general, easy to detect a work of this character. It is usually a mere compilation, thrown together without much judgment or discretion,—one in which little or no pains are taken to test the value of the statements made, though it may be some attempt is made to arrange the material in such a manner as to facilitate the labours of the student. Such works are not to be altogether despised; they answer the purpose of conveying to the pupil a certain amount of information in a clear and accurate manner, and in that sense they are useful, although they do little or nothing towards the promotion of original research and the extension of the boundaries of existing knowledge. But it sometimes happens that a text-book writer has other aims; he has something new to tell, or he arranges his material in a novel manner, and so presents his subject to the mind of the pupil in an aspect different from that which is customary. So far as we can judge, Dr. Brown has been actuated by the latter motive. His book contains little that is absolutely novel, but greater stress is laid on some departments than on others, and so a text-book differing from any other we are acquainted with is the result. One special feature in it consists in the pains that have been taken to consult and cite original memoirs. Indeed, this constitutes, in our judgment, the most important and valuable part of the whole book, supplying as it does, within small compass, a pretty complete bibliography of the subjects on which it treats. The present volume is devoted exclusively to the anatomy and physiology of flowering plants, the history of the cryptogams, as well as the details of classification in general, and of the geographical distribution of plants over the surface of the globe, being left for a companion volume, to be issued hereafter. As is usually the case in English text-books, the physiological portion is the weakest

We have, indeed, a condensed summary of what Germans and Frenchmen have done; but there are but few indications of the author having himself tested their results and arrived at any independent conclusions. Neither do we find any directions to enable students to experiment and interrogate Nature for themselves. In these respects, however, the author is no greater faultier than his fellow-teachers, and he admits his and their deficiencies in his Preface, where he says, with justice, "vegetable physiology is almost dead in Britain." It is, however, strange that the author should have said so little concerning the splendid series of researches on the absorption of nitrogen, and on the evaporation of water from the leaves, by Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert, or on the experiments of Daubeny on the action of light on plants; and that no mention is made, so far as we have seen, of Priestley, Ingenhousz, or Senebier, who were the first to ascertain in what leaf action really consists. While cardinal facts like these are unnoticed, or dismissed with a few words only, we find matters of much less importance discussed at greater length, and as much stress laid on the statements of "popular" writers in ordinary periodicals as on the more carefully weighed utterances of more responsible writers in journals or books of greater scientific reputation. Other departments of vegetable physiology are more satisfactorily treated of. The questions relating to the fertilization of plants, on which Mr. Darwin and those who have worked in his track have thrown so much light, are considered with a fullness and clearness of exposition that contrasts favourably with the treatment of the subject of plant-nutrition generally. The author has also been careful to consult the newest and most recent sources of information; thus we find the flesh-digesting properties of the Dionaea and Drosera, and the electrical phenomena presented by the Venus's Flytrap, duly recorded. Misprints are rather numerous, and the whole work gives us the impression that the author has been embarrassed by the magnitude of his task, and too hurried in its accomplishment. An excellent Index terminates the volume, of which we may say, as a whole, that it is so good that we hope to meet with it in a second edition, when the author will have had more time to digest his materials, and afford them more equal treatment.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

Thursday.

An excellent and eloquent Address from Lord Moncrieff, as President of the Jurisprudence Section, opened the proceedings of the first real working day of the Congress. He commenced by drawing a somewhat gloomy picture of the lawyer's office, and of the small amount of public sympathy commonly extended to it; yet "the emotions which stir the heart, the objects which prompt to action, the impulses of hope or fear, or joy or grief, or love or hate, all come to the lawyer at last.... The poet and the novelist deal with shadows only; he alone is conversant with the substance.... He aids at every turn of fortune's wheel, although sometimes but scantily thanked when the turn is served.... Law, indeed, is a miniature and compendium of life; and it ought to represent, as it professes to do, life as it is—not life as it has been or as we may hope it may be." Thus it is not a dead, but a living thing: it grows, and should grow, with everything around it, and still enacts a consistent whilst ever-varying part amidst the ever-varying circumstances which attend and induce its development. But "in the great ocean of jurisprudence, we have two contrary currents—administration and legislation—one setting in to the past, the other to the future"; and while administration ever seeks to provide for new difficulties by involving them in new subtleties, which ultimately rebound upon themselves, "legislation limps with a tardy foot." The true principle on which this inevitable tendency of judicial systems ought to be counteracted is that of bringing the law as it stands at any moment to the test of public

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utility. And in doing so with a view to action individual interests and ancient precedents must be often sacrificed. "The question for a philosophical jurist is, which state of the law will prove the most beneficial in the greatest number of cases? and that question once solved, possible instances of hardship are mere nightmares, which an enlightened legislator must entirely disregard." Having laid down this broad and enlightened view of the functions of legal reform, Lord Moncrieff passed on to pay a high compliment to the system of English jurisprudence. "Freedom, the axiom on which this fabric has been built, is the crowning jewel of English jurisprudence, fraught with unspeakable benefits to the people," and so distinguishing it from the more philosophical systems of Continental nations, and even of Scotland itself. "But the absence of a public prosecutor in the criminal jurisprudence of England affords a good illustration of the sacrifice of present interests to past and extinct apprehensions." In this respect England now stands alone, and the solitude is not a distinction—in the eyes, at least, of the Lord-Justice Clerk of Scotland. The Address next proceeded to consider the much-vexed question of a Code or a Digest. In the opinion of Lord Moncrieff, "we shall never see so gigantic a work undertaken as a code of the laws of these kingdoms." Such a work, he said, "is the work of an arbitrary Government," quite oblivious, apparently, of what has been accomplished in America in this direction. His proposal was, that certain portions of the law should first be dealt with, and so the work proceed by degrees; and that this work should rather be a voluntary effort than the result of Government interference. From this point forward the Address became rather more technical than Lord Moncrieff appeared to think was suitable to a general audience, and was subjected by him, in consequence, to various *impromptu* curtailments, which considerably interfered with its sense and sequence. Not even this process, however, sufficed to quite deprive it of its inherent value and interest, and it concluded amidst general and well-deserved applause.

The Sections, numbering five, viz., Health, Education, Law, Economy and Trade, and Repression of Crime, then met in the several rooms of the Corporation Galleries provided for their reception; and as these rooms were, for the most part, hung with excellent paintings, they presented a far more cheerful appearance than we have sometimes witnessed at similar gatherings of the Association. It is true that in the Health Section this happy effect was somewhat marred by the juxtaposition of certain charts and calculations of a high sanitary value, but a decidedly lugubrious appearance; but as the irrepressible sewage question was down for discussion there this day, nothing, probably, could be more appropriate. An excellent reception-room and an admirable refreshment-room, all within the compass of the same building, completed the arrangements.

The principal business transacted, besides that in the Health Section, where Dr. Andrew Fergus, Mr. Baldwin Latham, C.E., and Major-General H. Y. D. Scott, C.B., did good service, and provoked, as is usual in the Health Section on all similar occasions, free and ample discussion, was an important debate, in the Education Section, on Technical Education, introduced by the reading of three papers, of various merit, by Mr. E. Samuelson, M.P., Dr. James Bryce, and Mr. Montgomerie Neilson. As too often happens in the treatment of this subject, much latitude of interpretation was given to the term "technical education" by many of the speakers, and even by some of the essayists; and at last it became evident that while some were advocating one thing, others were advocating another and totally different one, whilst others again were advocating the same under different names, and several had not quite made up their minds what they had stood up to advocate at all. Under these circumstances, Lord Napier and Ettrick, who presided, judiciously omitted the accustomed summing-up at the end

of the proceedings, and it may be hoped, and believed, that all parties to the discussion departed satisfied. The Jurisprudence Section had a regular field-day. Mr. Thomas Webster, Q.C., read a Report of certain efforts that had been in progress for some time back, more or less in conjunction with the Social Science Association, to provide a code of law for all nations, which efforts (though certainly not, up to the present, successful) were (he contended) to be looked hopefully upon. Sir Edward Creasy and others read papers upon the fertile subject of Courts of Arbitration, and Sir Travers Twiss, Lord Moncrieff, and others, joined in the discussion. Lastly, Mr. J. M. Ludlow raised a discussion on Friendly Societies, the point at issue being to what extent the law should be empowered to interfere in their constitution—a point which was debated with some ability by several fairly representative philosophers present. In the Repression of Crime Department, whether, as usual, Miss Carpenter drew a large audience, the debate was on the Industrial Schools Acts; while the comprehensive inquiry, "How can this country best prepare itself to meet the increased competition arising from the spread of manufacturing industry in Europe?" occupied the attention of that of Economy and Trade to little purpose.

#### Friday.

Lord Napier and Ettrick delivered a lengthened Address on Education at the Queen's Rooms, the apartment used for presidential addresses, and which, being rather over a mile from any of those in which the Sections meet, was one of the least convenient that could have been chosen. He spoke of the English and Scotch systems respectively. With regard to the first, he greatly regretted that the voluntary system had not proved successful, but he fully confessed that it had not done so. Our duty now was to accept the Act of 1870 in a friendly spirit, and to make the best of it. Yet the voluntary system was, after all, the most congenial to the habits of thought of the English people, and a true co-operation between the two systems was the key to the situation. Three things went to form a good elementary system of education—good accommodation, good teaching, and regular attendance. Of these the greatest difficulty in the present day was the defective attendance.

He was in favour of qualified compulsion; his proposal being, that when the school inspector was satisfied that the school attendance in a parish was defective, and that from no fault in the schools, the Privy Council should have power to proclaim compulsory attendance in that parish. Enlarging on the Scotch system, he regretted the decay of the ancient parish schools, which he had left behind him in full vigour forty years ago, when, "treading in the footsteps of so many of my countrymen, I left a wild land of green pastures, foaming streams, and theological shepherds, where every simple feature of actuality had received the magic touch of legend or of song." The two principal objects for which his countrymen ought now to strive were, the better organization of infant instruction, and the settlement of a permanent Education Department in Scotland. In conclusion, Lord Napier expressed himself strongly against the exclusive appropriation of educational endowments for the use of men, and perorated eloquently on the general necessity of education and the general advantage of knowledge.

The discussions of most general interest during the day occurred in the Jurisprudence Department (Municipal Law Section) and in the Health Department. In the former, something of a sensation was produced by a paper read by Sheriff Clark in favour of absolute unanimity in juries, in opposition to the Scotch custom and precedent. He laid down the following propositions: 1. That trial by jury is an institution not of universal application, but one which, when applied within certain limits and to certain purposes, is of admirable use, and ought to be retained. 2. That the requirement of an unanimous verdict is an indispensable element in the working of jury trial pure and simple. 3. That when rightly under-

stood there is nothing irrational in the requirement. A paper, contributed by Mr. Forsyth, Q.C., M.P., on the same subject, was read in his absence, to the effect that, in civil though not in criminal cases, the verdict of a majority in a certain proportion to the whole number should be taken, after a sufficient time had been allowed for deliberation. A really valuable and suggestive discussion followed, in which, amongst other representative lawyers, Judge Peabody, of America, took part. A paper was also read upon Supreme Court of Appeal, by Mr. Miller, Q.C., and another on Trades Unions, in which some local interest seemed to be taken, by Mr. A. T. Innes. In the Health Section, a large assemblage mustered to hear Mr. Cooke-Taylor's paper on the special question "What influence has the Employment of Mothers in Manufacture on Infant Mortality; and ought any, and what, restrictions to be placed upon it?" The object of the paper was to show that no legislative restrictions could be imposed without producing evils worse than those they sought to remedy; and further, that there was no special need for any such restrictions in the case contemplated, inasmuch as the rate of infant mortality was not higher in the factory districts than elsewhere. An animated debate ensued, a large majority of the speakers supporting the view of the essayist; amongst the dissentients, however, was the Earl of Rosebery, who had already given expression to his views in his opening Address. Other subjects of interest which came before the Congress during the day were, a paper 'On the Report of the Commission on Friendly Societies,' by Dr. Cameron, M.P., and others by Mr. William Ludlow, the Hon. Lynagh Stanley, and Mr. George Potter, on the same or similar subjects, all in the Economy and Trade Department; on Compulsory Education, by Mr. James McClelland, and on the Kindergarten System of Teaching, by Miss E. A. Manning, in the Education Section; and on Cumulative Sentences, by Sergeant Cox, in that of Repression of Crime.

On Saturday all the Sections adjourned, for the purpose of affording the visitors to Glasgow an opportunity of viewing the scenery of the neighbourhood, and many availed themselves of the opportunity.

#### Monday.

Dr. Lyon Playfair, President of the Health Section, delivered an exhaustive Address. In the earlier part he dealt principally with the sanitary condition of Scotland, throughout which the mortality was augmenting in every class of district, urban and rural. The laws of health were relentless in their operation. Among the ancients this fact was fully recognized. Moses was the most practical of all sanitary reformers. But when the civilization of the Egyptians, the Jews, the Greeks, and the Romans faded away, the world passed through dark ages of mental and physical barbarism. For a thousand years there was not a man or woman in Europe that ever took a bath. (1) Hence the terrible plagues and epidemics of the Middle Ages. It required some striking examples, such as the plague of London, and the immunity from it enjoyed by Oxford, in consequence of the assembling of the Court and Parliament there, and the cleansing which the city then underwent, to arouse men's minds. Gradually, however, it came to be understood that public health can only be insured by cleanliness, and the conviction has been growing. But public action was necessary as well as private conviction. Parliament must enact for this country the commandment, "Thou shalt not pollute rivers." It must take steps to insure that every human being shall have a full supply of fresh air as well as of pure water. From 2,000 to 3,000 cubic feet of air should be allowed to pass through a chamber every hour for each person sleeping or living in it. Light and air are as necessary to the dwellers in cities as to the trees in a forest. Sanitarians are now generally disposed to believe that the death rate in urban districts need not necessarily exceed 17 in 1,000; but in Glasgow, and even in London, where the

rate is very low, we were a long way behind that still. It was not so much new laws that were required as more efficient administration of those already in existence. The local government of the country was in a state of arrested development. Dr. Playfair concluded with an eloquent peroration, showing how, in the wonderful scheme of our existence, death and life rapidly appear in correlation, and past generations of animals, by a process of dissolution, produce living generations by a process of evolution.

The address was heard with marked attention by a crowded audience.

The work of the Sections was various and interesting. In the Law Department, the special question for discussion was, "Should the testimony of any, and what persons, at present excluded witnesses, be admissible as evidence in courts of law?" and papers on the subject were read by Sheriff Dickson, Serjeant Cox, and Mr. Mozley, on behalf of Serjeant Pulling, in his unavoidable absence. Sir Travers Twiss occupied the chair. The Repression of Crime Section was at the same time occupied, after its kind, in the discussion of criminal matters. Major Brudenell Rogers read a good paper on the question, "Is it desirable to extend sentences of police supervision to other cases than those already provided for?" and Dr. Yellowlees one on the Criminal Responsibility of the Insane, remarkable for its practical and suggestive tone. Both papers were followed by well-sustained discussions. Mr. G. W. Hastings presided. The attention of the Education Section was occupied principally during the day in the discussion of the subject of academical endowments in both England and Scotland respectively. Prof. G. G. Ramsay read a paper on the subject which may be briefly summarised. He said that there were two main views of the work of Universities—first, the practical educational view; and, second, the scientific view. He wanted the University to have a closer connexion with the higher schools of the country. He suggested that fellowships should be bestowed for a limited period, independent of all conditions; that a further term should be granted to all who pursued a definite course of study, either at the University or elsewhere, and as a proof of that course being completed, took a degree; and, thirdly, that all tutors, after a certain number of years of good service, should be allowed to hold their fellowships as premiums. Mr. C. S. Parker also read a paper on the same subject, and brought forward for consideration some valuable and pertinent statistics. Then Miss Dorothea Beal read one on University Examinations for Girls, and Mr. William Jack on the Statutory Examinations of Scotch Higher Schools under the new Education Act. The Health Section met under the presidency of the Lord Provost, Sir James Watson. The question for discussion was, "In what way can healthy working men's dwellings be erected in lieu of those removed for carrying out sanitary or municipal improvements, or for other purposes?"—a question in which it was understood that the Lord Provost took a special interest. Papers were read on the subject by Bailie Morrison and the Rev. R. C. Simpson. The former was chiefly of an historical and retrospective character, dealing with the condition of Glasgow before the City Improvement Trust commenced its operations, and showing what had been undertaken and accomplished since. The further changes in progress would occupy twenty or twenty-five years in completion. Mr. Simpson, Rector of St. Clement's Danes, London, treated the matter in a more comprehensive spirit. He held that drunkenness and all ill habits were stimulated by bad dwellings. The "religious difficulty" was as nothing compared with the home difficulty. The efforts that had been made by private and associated enterprise were insufficient; it was necessary to call in State aid. The only agency that could effectually carry out the work was municipal government. Mr. Edwin Chadwick, Mr. Thomas Webster, and Prof. Gairdner took part in the discussion. The Economy and Trade Section, under the presidency,

first of Sir George Campbell, and afterwards of Mr. M'Lagan, M.P., was fully occupied during the day.

Tuesday.

Sir George Campbell, President of the Economy and Trade Section, delivered his opening Address. He alluded to the recent change of thought in respect to orthodox political economy, whereby a sort of mixed political economy had supplanted the purer doctrine. The grand difficulty in establishing a good social state in these days seemed to him to consist in this, that up to the present time all the examples of free states with which we were acquainted were examples of states in which real freedom had been confined to a body of freemen, not comprising the whole population. But we were now going through a social revolution, and the vast rise of wages was a portentous sign. Was this continuous increase to go on indefinitely? He thought not; both in Hindostan and China there was an industrious and numerous population, in which there were great economic capacities. India was competing with Manchester in the textile industries, and China was ready to compete in the labour market all over the world. The greatest question of modern days, however, was how to reconcile a great manufacturing system with prudence; how to give the workman a sufficient interest in the product of his labour, a sufficient incentive to exertion, and a sufficient motive to economy. We must, if possible, so arrange our land laws that garden plots in convenient situations may be easily available to the industrious mechanic. We must so arrange our associated labour that the industrious and energetic man may earn in proportion to his industry and energy. We must so regulate the laws under which money is invested in industrial enterprise that the small holder may be secure of fair treatment, and have fair expectations of a good return. His conviction was that the Imperial Parliament, as now constituted, was not capable of dealing with the many social problems which continually presented themselves. The machine is too large and cumbrous; he was so far a home ruler that he would like to see a large portion of our self-government transferred to local assemblies.

The Education Section was again the principal point of interest in the day's proceedings. Three papers were read on the best modes of extending education by means of the educational clauses of the Factory, Workshop, and similar Acts, and of the Education Act. Both the papers and the discussion which followed were highly discursive, the "religious difficulty," as usual, forcing its way in, to the confusion of the matter immediately in debate and the vast agitation of the clerical element, which was present in great force, as usual. The essayists were, Mr. W. Mitchell, of the Glasgow School Board, the Rev. J. Page Hopps, and Mr. J. F. Moss, Clerk to the Sheffield School Board; and amongst the speakers were, Mr. Cooke-Taylor, Mrs. Lowe, Mr. Kidston, Mr. G. J. Holyoake, Mr. Rowland Hamilton, Mrs. Lewis, and Mr. O'Malley. Mr. Chatfield Clarke also read a paper on School Board work in London, in which he spoke sanguinely of the future of the Education Act in that city. The Health Section was mainly occupied with subjects of local interest. Mr. Sheriff Spens, however, read a paper on a subject of more general interest, namely, the appointment of sanitary inspectors with reference to the Public Health Act, advocating that these appointments should be made more valuable. The Economy and Trade Section listened with interest to a long paper from Mr. Edwin Chadwick, on the subject of a closer union of interests between Great Britain, India, and the Colonies. The Earl of Rosebery, Mr. Macfie, M.P., Sir Coomara Swamy, Prof. Donnell, and others, spoke afterwards.

Wednesday.

The last day of the Congress provided a programme of papers that was all but appalling, and this in addition to an Address from G. W. Hastings, as President of the Repression of Crime Section, at 9:45 A.M., a meeting of the Council at

1 P.M., and the concluding General Meeting of Members and Associates at 3 P.M. Mr. Hastings has so often addressed the Association in one capacity or another, and is so favourably known to all members of it, that he was sure of a large audience, and obtained one. We cannot here, however, follow his valuable and suggestive remarks, nor, indeed, give anything like an analysis of the morning's proceedings. Suffice it to say, then, that the Section which was best filled was that of Economy and Trade, Section B, where Mrs. King sought to lay the foundation of a system of Domestic Economy, based upon strictly scientific principles, and Mrs. Crawshay communicated a narrative of her successful experiment in employing ladies in the capacity of domestic servants at her residence near Merthyr Tydfil. A paper descriptive of the work of the Ladies Sanitary Association was also read in the Health Department by the Secretary, Miss Rose Adams, and the great Liquor Question fully discussed in Section A. of Economy and Trade. The Repression of Crime Section did not sit.

At the meeting of Council, besides the merely formal work, an invitation to hold the next Annual Congress at Brighton was accepted, and a telegram read from the Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool, inviting the Association for 1876. At the concluding meeting the usual votes of thanks were proposed and passed, and the Congress of 1874 came to a close. It has been the most successful one which the Social Science Association has held for the last ten years, as well in point of numbers and monetary result as in the general interest taken in its proceedings. Fourteen years ago the Association had held its most successful meeting in the same city, and it has been a matter of no little congratulation to the permanent members of it that they have met with so cordial a reception on their second visit.

#### THE VOYAGES OF THE BROTHERS ZENO.

British Museum, September 29, 1874.

On my return from the Continent, I lose no time in replying to a review in your issue of the 29th of August, of my edition of 'The Voyages of the Venetian Brothers, Nicolo and Antonio Zeno, to the Northern Seas in the Fourteenth Century,' originally edited, in 1558, by their descendant, Niccolò Zeno, junior.

As I claim to have been the first to demonstrate the genuineness of this document by means of new facts and new lines of reasoning, in spite of which your reviewer says that "the verdict of the public will be 'not proven,'" I must request space for my complaint that your reviewer has himself guided his readers to such a verdict by the easy process of suppressing both my facts and my arguments, and by suggesting, and even attributing to me, facts and arguments which are neither mine nor true. The document is worth the trouble; for, although your reviewer makes no allusion whatever to circumstances so important, it is the latest known which treats of the lost colony of Greenland, for the discovery of which the Kings of Denmark have, for three centuries, sent out many unsuccessful expeditions, and it is also the latest which treats of the existence of Europeans in North America before Columbus, i.e., one century before his first voyage across the Atlantic. Although the work has for centuries been a subject of discussion by some of the most distinguished *literati* in Europe, I am "bold" to say that I am happily able, here and now, to secure from the common-sense of the public a verdict of "proven," and that from passages which your reviewer has himself selected for quotation; and as his comments are appended thereto, the reader will be able to see how the *suppressio veri* and the *suggestio falsi* have been resorted to in order to undo what I have done. His first quotation is:—

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but, some of the letters surviving, he was able from them, subsequently, to compile the *narrative* and publish it, as we now have it, in the year 1558. He found also in the palace a map, rotten with age, illustrative of the voyages. Of this he made a copy, unluckily supplying from his own reading of the *narrative* what he thought was requisite for its illustration.

And the reviewer's comment on this passage is—

"Thus at the very threshold we have sufficient to excite suspicion; first the admission of the destruction of the original and the compilation from such letters as were not destroyed, then Niccolò's additions to the map from 'his own reading of the narrative' (which had been destroyed), and this 160 or 170 years after the events had taken place."

I wonder whether any one else but your reviewer, with my own words before his eyes, could have written that parenthesis ("which had been destroyed"). If the reader will look back, he will see that what I call the narrative (in two places underlined) from which Niccolò made his unlucky additions to the map, was compiled from the surviving letters, and so published. How then could the narrative derived from these letters have been "destroyed"? Thus an effort is made to render the Zeno document and my advocacy of it ridiculous by means of an absurdity invented by your critic himself. It is a suggestion of what is neither mine nor true.

Now the real position of the case is this. We have a text and a map, both published by Niccolò Zeno junior in 1558 as derived from his ancestors of more than a century and a half before. The countries they treat of are, the Feroe Islands, under the name of Frislanda (the Feroe Island of the Danes); the Shetlands, under the name of Estlands on the map, and Estlanda, Elanda, and Islande in the text; the Orkneys, under the name of Porlanda; Greenland, under the name of Engronelanda; and parts of North America, under the name of Estotiland and Drogoo. Now of the island groups here referred to we have at the present day very minute and accurate surveys; and when the Zeno text is brought into comparison with these, its geography is found to be quite correct; and this is the basis of my demonstration. All these countries are also represented on the Zeno map. With the one exception of Greenland, which is wonderfully well delineated, they are, it is true, roughly put in (and no wonder in a map 500 years old), the island groups being drawn respectively in an irregular round line, as if each were a simple island, but yet they are in their approximately right positions geographically, and in respect of each other. Thus far we have the text and maps agreeing with each other, and exhibiting knowledge of the country, however rudely delineated on the latter. But what I have here specially to call attention to is, that in addition to these, certain places in these islands mentioned in the text are, from misinterpretation of names or of bearings, transported into most absurd localities on the map, so as to occur in duplicate. Thus, while Shetland stands in its proper position, as originally rudely drawn by the old voyager, places in the Shetlands mentioned in the text are, from a pardonable misinterpretation of the name "Islands," converted into islands on the east coast of Iceland. For want of space, I only give this ludicrous example, but it is enough. These blunders only occur in connexion with places named in the text, and nothing is easier than to trace from the text itself how by misinterpretation each has arisen. Where then are we to look for the author of these blunders, except to the restorer of the map, who had no personal knowledge to save him from making them? Now I appeal to your readers to decide whether it is possible that the fourteenth-century Venetian travellers could have produced perfectly good detailed northern geography in their letters without writing from local knowledge, or whether their descendant, a century and a half later, could have dishonestly concocted such correct detailed northern geography in the text, and at the same

time have brought forth such ridiculously false geography in the map. Had geographical knowledge been sufficiently advanced in 1558 to enable a Venetian to produce good northern geography in his text, it would have served him as well in his map; and the names of places, moreover, would then have been spelt in their northern fashion, whereas here they are misspelt as a southerner would write them down from the lips of northmen. Is it not clear then that the accurate text truly comes, as he himself tells us, from his ancestors, and that in his endeavour to make what he calls a copy of the old map, so "rotten with age" that he is but too glad to succeed tolerably well, he reverts to the text for assistance, misinterprets both the spelling and the bearings, and so introduces the blunders in question? Then if so, we have a genuine document, and my case is "proven."

The line of reasoning, however, by which I have led to this important conclusion, is entirely suppressed by your critic; and the reader shall now see how, instead of it, the puzzling incongruities of the case are dragged crudely into light, and my deductions misrepresented. These are the reviewer's words:—

"Of the map Mr. Major writes: 'Let us turn and see what absurd blunders it exhibits in the misplacement of localities,'—'they are all of the most preposterous character,'—and well may he say so when the Shetlands are moved up to the north-east coast of Iceland, and the Orkneys to the south-east coast, while there is a second Shetland in its proper place; and to this Mr. Major says, 'In this fact we have a proof that Niccolò Zeno junior, the restorer of the map, is the cause of all the perplexity. But while this is a proof of his ignorance of the geography, it is the greatest proof that could be desired that he could not possibly have been the ingenious concoctor of a narrative, the demonstrable truth of which, when checked by modern geography, he could thus ignorantly distort upon the face of a map.' The force of this argument is hardly 'so conclusive that it could not be invalidated,' the inference drawn being that because the map is wrong, the narrative is right, and this map professes to be a copy. Certainly when Mr. Major makes these admissions, it is difficult to allow that all doubt has been removed."

The reader can now judge whether I have "admitted" such an absurd "inference" or such a forced meaning of the word "copy"; here, again, is a suggestion of what is neither mine nor true. In spite of the clearest evidence, your critic, in order to sap my argument, will have it that a "copy" must be a "copy" without additions, but the awkward fact remains that *there they are*, even though Niccolò did not in so many words say that he had made them. But as Niccolò himself said that he had made a "copy" of the chart, and "although it is rotten with age, I have succeeded with it tolerably well," your critic says, "In common justice we must take him at his word, and, if it be a copy, the genuineness of the narrative is by no means clear." I not only take Niccolò at his word, but at his deed; but I want to know why your critic is so anxious to take Niccolò Zeno at his word, not only *au pied de la lettre*, but *jusqu'aux ongles du pied*, when it suits his purpose, for the sake of upsetting what I have demonstrated by a score of converging facts and arguments in the course of my book (all which he suppresses), and yet refuses to take him at his word on any other point. I ask for nothing more than that he should be taken at his word; and, if only that be done, we have in what he has given us a very precious document. One of the drawbacks to its value has been the use of hyperbole, common to the natives of the South of Europe; but, as it occurs in descriptions of local movements which are proved to be fundamentally true by the accuracy of the geography, it remains that the hyperbole is but the husk of a sound kernel. Your critic says, "The hyperbole is either ridiculous or false." It is, in all cases, both; but it is not, as he sneeringly calls it, "charity," but

fidelity to truth, to recognize it as hyperbole, neither more nor less, wherever it occurs.

My recognition of this reality, combined with the historical fact that, in 1391, Henry Sinclair, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, slew, in the Shetland Islands, Malise Sperre, his Norse rival-claimant to the Earldom, explains the most difficult passage in the whole document, and, at the same time, brings the dates and history and geography of the story into perfect harmony. Yet this Henry Sinclair, whose doings, as Earl of Orkney and Caithness, have a most important bearing on the authenticity of the Zeno document, is never once mentioned by your critic even by name.

The following is another suggestion of your critic's which is neither mine nor true:—"If the narrative," he says, "is to be relied on, Antonio Zeno was as far as ever from being the discoverer of the western world, for twenty-six years before he sailed on his voyage, four fishing boats had reached Estotiland (North America), and they arrived only to discover that others had preceded them." In the whole of my book there is not a word to the effect that Antonio Zeno was ever supposed to have discovered the western world, and such a reference as the above to the important subject of the colonization of America by the Northmen at the beginning of this millennium, which gives so peculiar an interest to the Zeno volume, simply leaves me in amazement.

Another suggestion of what is not true is answered by the fact that the younger Niccolò's family attached no special importance to those papers, as they had no reason to connect them with America, for the lands alluded to therein had up to their time been only regarded as a continuation of Europe. Again, Niccolò junior, so far from having concocted this story out of jealousy of Columbus, made no claim whatever even to the lands referred to being in America; another suggestion of what is neither mine nor true.

I have adduced at length the "sailing directions" and "chorography of Greenland" left by Ivar Bardsen, a Greenlander of high authority, a few years anterior to the visit of Niccolò Zeno senior to that country in 1392, and the two accounts corroborate each other in the most marvellous manner, and fix the site of the lost colony, but both Ivar Bardsen's name and his evidence are entirely suppressed by the reviewer. I need, therefore, say nothing about his Greenlandic criticisms.

I do not see what fair chance there is for any cause, however just, momentous, or even sacred it might be, when the statement of the case, the production of the evidence, and the issue of the verdict, all lie in the hands of one anonymous antagonist. How much less when the same individual constitutes himself the judge, and exhibits, as qualifications for the office, such samples as we have just seen of the *suppressio veri* and the *suggestio falsi*!

R. H. MAJOR.

\*\* Mr. Major is angry with us because we do not agree with him; but we are quite willing to leave the decision of the matter to our readers, having no fear that they will accuse us either of a *suppressio veri* or a *suggestio falsi*. We examined the internal evidence for the authenticity of the work, and, in our opinion, it does not stand examination. Mr. Major admits "hyperbole," "inflation of language," "grandiloquence and bombast," in the narrative; all these may be considered excess of truth, "the husk of the sound kernel"; he also admits that the map has been added to; in all this he and we agree, it is only in the size of the sound kernel and the extent of the additions that we and he differ. We maintain that the truth of the narrative is not substantiated. The other considerations introduced by Mr. Major are beside the question. When it can be proved that a fleet, even of row-boats, could remain at Lille Dimon to refresh the crews or furnish them with necessaries, more credit will be accorded to the narrative which Mr. Major defends with more energy than judgment.

## Science Gossip.

THE opening of the School of Medicine in connexion with Owens College, Manchester, took place a few days ago, when Prof. Huxley delivered the inaugural address.

ALL the arrangements for the Yorkshire College of Science are now completed, and the first session will commence on the 26th inst. The subjects of study, for which properly qualified professors are appointed, are mathematics, experimental physics, chemistry, geology, mining, and textile manufactures. The Company of Cloth-workers of London have founded eight studentships, four of 30*l.* each and four of 25*l.* each.

DR. GUTHRIE, some time since, established that a heated body does not act in the same manner in relation to positive and to negative electricity. M. A. W. Bickerton publishes in *Les Mondes* a note—“On a New Relation between Heat and Statical Electricity,” in which he examines Dr. Guthrie’s experiments, and describes his own, which, he thinks, justifies the two following principles:—“1. Aux températures basses, l’électricité négative est très facilement enlevée par l’air. A certaines températures, l’air paraît enlever également bien les deux électricités; mais, aux températures élevées, c’est l’électricité positive qu’il吸sorbe les plus facilement. 2. L’électricité à haute tension peut être enlevée par l’air à de basses températures; mais, à mesure que la tension diminue, le décharge n’a lieu que si l’air est plus en plus chaud.”

The eighth quarterly Report of the Sub-Wealden Exploration Committee has been issued. Little progress has been made during the past three months, in consequence of difficulties connected with the lining tubes, and the extraction of the broken rods from the bore. The engineers are of opinion that this will be satisfactorily accomplished, and that the desired depth of 2,000 feet will certainly be reached. The Report refers to the rich beds of gypsum which have been made known, and which are now in actual process of development, and to the many advantages derived from the geological information already obtained.

DR. DITTMAR, of Owens College, Manchester, has been appointed to the Chair of Scientific Chemistry in the Andersonian University, Glasgow, in the place of Dr. Thorpe, who is appointed the Professor of Chemistry in the Yorkshire College of Science at Leeds.

*La Liberté* states that a wild vanilla has been introduced into commerce—which possesses poisonous properties—as a substitute for the cultivated variety, which is not poisonous. As this plant is largely used in flavouring chocolate, and as injurious consequences may result from the use of the uncultivated variety, this cannot be too generally known. However, as Dr. A. W. Hofmann informs the Académie des Sciences that the aromatic principle of the vanilla has been obtained from pine sap, and will be manufactured on a large scale, there is not much cause for alarm.

M. LECOMPTÉ, at a recent Séance of the Academy of Sciences, proposed the utilization of the ebb and the flow of the tides for compressing air, which will be required in the construction of the proposed tunnel under the Channel, and for driving the boring machines which will be used.

A PRIZE of 1,000 imperial marks is offered by the Society of German Ultramarine Manufacturers for the best scientific and experimental work on Ultramarine, especially examining the condition under which the sulphur exists, and the part which it plays in this product.

MESSRS. BLACKIE & SON inform us that the new issue of the ‘Cyclopaedia of Agriculture,’ of which we spoke last week, is not a new edition, but only a reprint at a lower price.

It is stated, on apparently good authority, that a vein of coal has been discovered in Colorado which contains the trunks and limbs of trees resembling red cedar, transformed into bright hard coal resembling jet. If this is confirmed by

further observations, and the metamorphosed wood does not prove to be a lignite or brown coal, an important question connected with coal-formation will be answered.

## FINE ARTS

DORÉ’S GREAT PICTURE OF ‘CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,’ with ‘The Dream of Pilate’s Wife,’ ‘Night of the Crucifixion,’ ‘Christian Martyrs,’ ‘Francesca da Rimini,’ &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 36, New Bond Street. Ten to Six.—Admission, 1*l.*

## THE SANCHI SCULPTURES.

THE discoveries made at Bharahut by General Cunningham, in addition to their own importance, are very satisfactory to those who have been working in the dark to decipher the meaning of the Sanchi sculptures. We are now assured that the Jātakas were the favourite subjects that engrossed popular attention when the Stūpas of this class were erected.

As General Cunningham thinks that the earliest (Buddhist) reference to the story of Rāma is to be found at Bharahut, I should be glad if you would give me space in your paper to say that I have no doubt, in my own mind, that fig. 2, pl. xxxvi. of the Sanchi sculptures (‘Tree and Serpent Worship’) is intended to represent the Buddhist version of this history.

The river on the right is the Pampā, described in the epic as “filled with every kind of fish.” The two figures advancing from the river are Rāma and Lakshman; the frightened monkeys are leaping from peak to peak of Rishyagiri (or Rishyamukha) in terror at the martial appearance of the two strangers. On the left Sugriva is in earnest conversation with Rāma. The front of the grouping is occupied by Rāma drawing the bow, and the lower portion represents the hero’s return to Ayodhyā to take possession of his father’s throne.

I feel tolerably sure that this is the subject of the scene, particularly as it occupies a similar relative position to the Sāma Jātaka as the two portions of the Wessantara Jātaka do one to another, or the Northern gateway.

It will be interesting to know whether the sculptures at Bharahut relating to Rāma bear out this hypothesis.

S. BEAL.

## Fine-Art Gossip.

IT has been stated that Mr. Brock was to have the entire charge of the completion of the works left by Mr. Foley; but we are informed that by the provisions of Mr. Foley’s will the work is to be jointly undertaken by Messrs. Brock, Dewick, and Birch.

EVERY one will be glad to know that Mr. Alma Tadema and his wife were from home when last week’s explosion took place almost immediately in front of their house, at North Gate, Regent’s Park. The house is, however, a sad wreck: the windows are utterly destroyed, the fittings of the rooms, especially those on the front and side of the residence, are thoroughly ravaged; door-cases and partitions have been completely blown away, ceilings and walls are split, chimney-pieces were thrown down; the front door, which was of great strength, was literally doubled before it was forced in; the walls of the principal front are rent, the roof is seriously injured, and a terrible débris was made of the furniture, a great deal of which had been designed by the painter, and was both beautiful and valuable. The children were happily unhurt, though exposed to much danger; but one of the servants was seriously injured. None of Mr. Tadema’s pictures was, we believe, seriously damaged, but the cost of this “accident” will be a large sum.

LORD FITZWALTER has accepted the post of President of the Annual Meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute, to be held next year at Canterbury.

We trust that when the new additions to the National Gallery, which are now far advanced towards completion, are ready for occupation, the managers of the institution will adopt the

plan for arranging the pictures which is now being carried out in the Louvre, and place the works in chronological order. This is a prodigious advantage to the student, and absolutely essential for the information of the public.

“H. W.” writes to us from Naples, under the date September 27th:—“An important discovery has been made in Herculaneum. It is that of a silver bust, of whom was at first unknown, but now it appears to be decided to be that of the Emperor Galba. It has a double interest, first, from the fact of its being the first bust of silver found either in Herculaneum or Pompeii, and, secondly, from its being that of an emperor who reigned so short a time. It will shortly be added to the treasures of the Museum. Nothing of any importance has been discovered lately in Pompeii; the excavations are still carried on, but at a point where nothing of any great interest is expected to be turned out.”

THE proposition to cut a road through the Gardens of the Tuilleries, is probably one of the most unfortunate and unfeeling that the coarse utilitarian spirit of the day has devised, far worse than that which would treat a London park in a similar fashion. The Tuilleries garden is one of the most charming places of its kind in Europe, and as it is no longer reserved for the inhabitants of the palace, a delight to the public, unobjectionable in every respect, except to men of business, or those who fancy themselves such, for we believe real men of business are never in such furious haste, but that they can diverge slightly from the straight line of one particular route. An impudent suggestion was made some time ago that one road, if not two, for cabs should be cut through the Temple, London, in order that not a minute might be lost on the way to Westminster, or vice versa to the City, a route much affected by reporters to newspapers, who, not satisfied with the Northern Embankment and the electric telegraph, coolly ignored the fact that the streets are designed to live in as well as to rush along. We have successfully resisted not a few attempts to spoil the parks of London for the sake of pleasing a small and fussy class of persons, and we trust our friends, the lovers of the beautiful in Paris, will be equally fortunate and succeed in defeating the stupid proposal which threatens them.

MR. GEORGE SCHAFER has contributed to the *Archaeological Journal* ‘Observations on some of the Principal Portraits of Devonshire Worthies,’ &c., exhibited at Exeter last year, a collection which comprised many works of great personal and historical interest, including a portrait alleged to represent Sir J. Fortescue, Chief Justice of the King’s Bench, 1442, which Mr. Schafar appears not to accept. He gives good reasons for the doubts he suggests. There were also portraits of Sir John and Dame Harington, a pair, hardly a group, of upright figures; their son and grandson, i.e. the first and second Lords Harington, the last of whom, a close companion of Henry, Prince of Wales, is shown in the group, about a dead stag by Van Somer, preserved at Wroxton Abbey. Mr. Schafar identified a portrait of the second Lord in the picture erroneously said to represent the Protector Somerset (No. 129), an ascription of a curiously unfortunate kind; likewise a portrait of his sister Lucy, Countess of Bedford, in the so-called “Princess Elizabeth” (No. 125); and he gives a capital suggestion that the picture said to represent “Prince Henry” (No. 123) is a likeness of his mother. Mr. Schafar corrects so many mistakes of this kind, that the student feels he ought to be appointed to examine all the family portraits in England, with a view to their identification; and that he ought to be made Chief Justice in Portraiture, bound to imprison, with not less than seven days’ hard labour, any artist who neglects to inscribe on each portrait he paints, his own name and that of the sitter, with the date of the picture. A short Act of Parliament, giving the Keeper of the National Portrait Gallery no option but to commit all such culprits, ought to be passed early

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in the next session. If Mr. Scharf had an option, he would excuse the guilty, having naturally a tender heart and a regard for his successors in office, who would have no chances for displaying learning and acumen approaching his own.

THE now venerable notion that a sort of love for fine art is the secret of the popularity of Ritualism, seems to be the basis of Mr. Gladstone's ingenious apology for the so-called "Roman" tendencies now exhibited by a portion of the clergy. This may seem odd to those who have observed how the alleged love for fine art has led to the setting up of the unlucky reredos in the cathedral of Exeter. That anything like love for fine art can have prompted the placing of such a piece of confectionery sculpture is quite incredible to those who know anything of design, and who have beheld this trumpery decoration. A man's ideas of art must be flabby indeed if it is gratified by such a simple toy. On the other hand, the history of the work serves to show the justice of that other portion of Mr. Gladstone's criticism which points out the enormous ignorance of the British public in art matters. How else can we account for the reredos being accepted? Being accepted—that it should be defended, is no wonder. The only means of reconciling the history of the reredos with the possible possession of knowledge of art by its defenders, is to suppose that they accepted the thing on paper, and really did not know what was to come of it. When it was executed, they could not well throw it over; but still, from an art point of view, that is the best thing they can do now.

THE Boston Art Museum has been opened, and found to contain a considerable number of commonplace pictures, with others of which the journals state that they are works of Velasquez, a portrait of Murillo, a small painting; of Zurbaran, four productions, including an "Adoration of the Magi"; of S. Rosa, two landscapes, apparently of no great account; of Morales, a Pieta; of Ribera; of Herrera; to say nothing of modern pictures, some of the very names of which are ignoble.

## MUSIC

### Musical Gossip.

A BIOGRAPHY of Balfe, the composer, is in preparation, written by Mr. Charles Kenney.

THE third and final Musical Festival of 1874 will take place next week in Leeds, on the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th inst. There will be four morning performances of sacred music, and three evening concerts. An outline of the programme appeared in the *Athenæum* of the 26th ult., No. 2448. The principal singers will be Mesdames Tietjens, Alvsleben, Singelli, Trebelli-Bettini, and Patey; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Lloyd, Bentham, and Santley; Signori Campanini, Perkins, and Agnesi, with Sir Michael Costa as conductor.

THE nineteenth series of the Saturday Afternoon Orchestral Concerts will be commenced this afternoon (the 10th inst.) at the Crystal Palace, with Mr. Manns conductor; Mr. Franklin Taylor will be the solo pianist, and Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Santley the principal singers.

WE have no recollection of Mdlle. Franchino as a *prima donna assoluta* of the Scala at Milan, and of the Grand Opéra in Paris, as stated in the bills of the Covent Garden Promenade Concerts, and it does not appear to us that her singing of the garden *scena* of Margaret in M. Gounod's "Faust," and of the "Lucia" cavatina, would entitle the lady to the distinction claimed for her, but she possesses sufficient excellence to take her place as a star vocalist at promenade concerts. A *Fantasia* on the themes from M. Lecocq's "Girofle-Girofle" is effective. M. Hervé, left to himself as a conductor, has proved that he required no assistance; he had his band well in hand last Saturday evening. The "Mendelssohn" selection, on the 7th inst., was directed by Sir Julius Benedict.

A COMPROMISE has been entered into, as regards

the chapel scene in the "Talismano," at Dublin, between Cardinal Cullen and the lessees of the Theatre Royal. The altar and cross have been removed; the acolytes with incense are seen no more, and the nuns have turned their dresses, so that the red crosses on them are no longer visible. Will any "Pastoral" be promulgated in London to prohibit the altar scenes, not in the "Talismano" only, but in "Robert le Diable" and "Faust," at our opera-houses? We have not heard that Mr. Chatterton has been denounced because of the chapel scene in "Richard Cœur de Lion," but it is clear that the era of Crusades is not ended.

THE controversy about the Three Choir Festival is at its height; the next stage will be when the Dean and Chapter of Worcester send in their reply to the application for the use of the Cathedral in 1875, a request supported by the Bishop of Worcester, Lord Hampton, Lord Beauchamp, and other members of the Committee of the Stewards, and backed by a memorial from the Town Council of Worcester to the Dean and Chapter, "respectfully requesting them to grant the use of the Cathedral and College Hall for the Musical Festival to be held next year."

No sooner did the Liverpool Festival end than the season of the Philharmonic Society commenced, with a concert last Tuesday, Sir J. Benedict conductor, as usual; the chief singers were Madame Roze-Perkins, Mr. Bentham, and Signor Perkins. The Italian Opera season, with the company of Her Majesty's Opera, will be begun at the Alexandra Theatre, on the 12th inst., with "Lucrezia Borgia."

A GUARANTEED FUND has been raised in Edinburgh for a series of orchestral concerts.

The first announcement of Madame Adelina Patti's appearance at the Salle Ventadour, in French Grand Opera, reached Paris through the *Athenæum*. Prodigious has been the excitement in consequence. M. Halanzier is a dramatic diplomatist, and his *coup de théâtre* has been to induce Madame Patti to make her *début* for the benefit of the "Alsaciens-Lorrains." Valentine, in the "Huguenots," which Madame Patti sang in French at Brussels and Liège, will be her first character, next Sunday, the 11th inst., and this part will be followed by Marguerite, in "Faust."

M. BAGIER will open his Italian Opera season, at the Salle Ventadour, on the off-night of the Grand Opéra, with "Lucrezia Borgia," sustained by Madame Pozzoni. Thursday, the 8th, was announced for the first performance. The other artists engaged are Mesdames Destin, Blume, Lamare, Montesini, Sarolta de Bujanovics, Sebel, Léontieff, Jaijlet, Varni, Mora, Monte-Carlo, R. Ronzi and B. Dejean, all *prime donne*; Signori Fraschini, Nicolini, Anastasi, Verati, Fernando and Belari, tenors; Signori Rinaldi, Lepers, Valdec, Soto, Romani, Giraudet, Dauphine and Mélin, baritones and basses; with Signor Vianesi as conductor. Nearly all these names are unknown in Paris, but engagements are pending with other "celebrities."

HERR TAUBERT has set, under the title of "Cresario," Shakespeare's "As You Like It," for the Imperial Opera-house; Madame Mallinger will have the principal part.

MADAME JENNY LIND GOLDSCHMIDT and Herr Otto Goldschmidt will reside for the future in Wiesbaden, having accepted the posts of leading Professors at the Rhenish Academy of Music, established in that town by the Imperial Government of Germany.

AN American male soprano, Mr. Heywood, has been playing, at the Berlin Walhalla, Leonora, in the "Trovatore," and La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein. He sings the two parts seriously, not as a burlesque, and his voice is stated by the German critics to be that of a pure and sympathetic soprano.

FOR the Italian Opera season at Cairo the engagements comprise, Mesdames Fricci, Waldmann, De Maesen, and Bentami (Mrs. Bentham); Signori Fancelli, Stagno, Vidal, Edardi, and

Angelini, tenors; Signori Pandolfini, Verger, Archinti, Medini, Milesi, Viriani, and Catani, baritones and basses.

MDLLE. ALBANI left Liverpool last Saturday for New York, to join the Italian Opera company of the brothers Maurice and Max Strakosch, who opened the Academy of Music on the 28th ult.

THE Carl Rosa English Opera Company, with Miss Blanche Cole as *prima donna*, Mr. Nordblom leading tenor, and Mr. F. Celli, baritone, have been successful at Bradford in their performances.

MR. REA has commenced his season of high-class Orchestral Concerts at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HERR WAGNER'S "Lohengrin" was the opera which inaugurated the opening of the new municipal theatre at Hamburg, preceded by Weber's "Jubilee" overture.

## DRAMA

**THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.**—Sole Lessee and Manager, F. B. Chatterton.—Immense success of "RICHARD CŒUR DE LION," vide public press. On MONDAY, and DURING the WEEK, at 7, "NODDY IN LONDON"; at 7.45, "RICHARD CŒUR DE LION." Mr. James Anderson, Mr. H. Sinclair, Mr. W. Terrell, and Mr. Creswick; Miss Wallis, and Miss Besie King. "HÈRE, THÈRE, and EVERWHERE," Mr. F. Evans and troupe.—Prices, from 6d. to 5s. Doors open at 6.30; commence at 7.—Box-office open from 10 till 5 daily.

### THE SOURCES OF "ROMEO AND JULIET."

*Los Bandos de Verona. Montescos y Capelos.* By Francisco de Rojas y Zorrilla. Englished by F. W. Cosen. (Printed for Private Distribution.)

GERMAN scholarship has busied itself of late with dramas drawn from the same source as Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." What information upon this subject is possessed in England is principally due to Mr. Cosen, who has already translated the "Castelvines y Monteses" of Lope de Vega and now publishes "Los Bandos de Verona" of Francisco de Rojas. An earlier translation of the former work is in existence, but is as difficult to find as valueless when obtained. Ordinary sources of information are meagre in the particulars they give concerning these works. Ticknor, the historian of Spanish literature, makes no mention whatever of the play now translated; and the "Biographie Universelle," ordinarily so instructive and trustworthy a guide, leaves the name of the author unmentioned. De Rojas, or, as he is more frequently called, De Roxas, is, however, a man of mark in the drama. One of his plays, "Del Rey abajo Ninguno," still holds its position on the Spanish stage; his "Casarse por Vengarse" supplied Le Sage with the story of "Le Mariage de Vengeance" in "Gil Blas"; "Donde hay Agravios no hay Zelos" furnished Scarron with the greater portion of his "Jodelet"; and the "Entre Bobos anda en Juego" gave Thomas Corneille the plot of his comedy of "Don Bertrand de Cigarral."

"Los Bandos de Verona, Montescos y Capelos," is assumably subsequent in date to the "Castelvines y Monteses," the career of Rojas, who was contemporary with Moreto, commencing towards the close of that of Lope de Vega, and outlasting, as is believed, that of Calderon. The piece is, probably, half a century later than the "Hadriana" of Luigi Groto, an Italian play, which bears in story a resemblance to "Romeo and Juliet," stronger in some respects than the works either of Lope de Vega or De Rojas. The public is likely to accept Mr. Cosen's verdict, that the literary merit of "Los Bandos de Verona" is but moderate, and that its principal interest lies in whatever

amount of illustration it affords of the play of Shakspeare or the growth of the drama.

Like the previous work Mr. Cossens introduced to the knowledge of the English public, 'Los Bandos de Verona' is a tragi-comedy. Its serious interest is, indeed, grimly developed. The heroine first drinks poison to release herself from the hands of her father, then recovers from its effects to see her life attempted by his dagger, while her lover punishes these attacks on his mistress by firing cannon from the stage upon the castle of Capelete and making a breach in its walls.

Portions only of the story are translated in the flowing and easy metre adopted by Mr. Cossens in the previous work. A prose analysis of the play is given, those passages being rendered into English verse which are more elevated in language or more dramatic in action. There is little attempt on the part of the dramatist to follow closely the action of the story, and the resemblance to Shakspeare scarcely extends beyond the names of the characters.

Alejandro Romeo sees Julia Capelete in the house of her father, which he has entered, not with festive purpose, as in Shakspeare, but with most sanguinary intent. He has slain a servant, and he is following in pursuit of the master, when he encounters Julia, against whom he immediately directs his sword. Love, prompt and passionate in those southern climes, seizes both while the sword is lifted, and the heat of the former quarrel is surpassed by that of the all-absorbing affection on the moment begotten. Two claimants for the hand of Julia divide her father's support. Her cousin, Andrés Capelete, is first in the field, but is soon distanced by El Conde Paris. The worthy last named is married to Elena, the sister of Romeo. His experience of her has been, apparently, unfavourable, since he makes the quarrel between the two houses, which has subsequently broken out, a reason for divorcing her and espousing Juliet. What follows belongs to the characteristically Spanish drama of intrigue. Julia having, to escape a marriage with Paris, taken the poison her father has offered her, is buried in the family vault. Romeo, who had previously made an appointment with her, to which her sister Elena was to accompany her, hears the news of her death, and, in his despair, visits her in the vault. This is conveniently left open, as a Spanish public would doubtless object to see on the stage the violation of a sepulchre. The audience, meanwhile, made aware that what was supposed to be a poison, is, in fact, a sleeping draught, is not surprised to see the heroine awake and receive her lover with rapture. Romeo quits the tomb, groping his way in the darkness, while Julia holds to the skirt of his cloak. For a moment she quits her hold, then by mistake seizes upon the cloak of Andrés, who also has come to the vault. As Elena, who has entered upon the scene, takes unconsciously the place of Julia, Romeo goes forward, suspecting nothing, to the coach he has provided. When his error is detected, the lovers are completely sundered. Julia escapes into the woods, and is seen by her father, who takes her for a ghost, and expresses his penitence for his former action. His compunctions visitings are not strong enough to prevent him from attempting again

her life, when he finds she is still in the flesh and still recalcitrant. A good deal of playing at hide-and-seek follows, the *gracioso* who is the servant of Romeo acting the part of chorus, and supplying the audience with a knowledge of what is supposed to take place behind their backs. In the end, Julia is confined in the fortress of the Capelete, which is duly besieged by Romeo. When further resistance is shown to be unavailing, Capelete surrenders, and consents to the match, while Paris agrees to take back the half-divorced Elena.

Unlike as all this is to 'Romeo and Juliet,' it is not so utterly below the level of Shakspeare as is the language of the Spanish dramatist. No scene or line stirs for a moment the pulse by depicting the struggle of youth and love against destiny, no flower-laden breath of poetry such as exhales from the early scenes of 'Romeo and Juliet' for one moment fans the cheek. A speech of the *gracioso*, in the last act of the three into which the play is divided, bears a resemblance to the utterances of Falstaff concerning honour, stronger than that of any passage to 'Romeo and Juliet.' This speech, like other utterances of the *gracioso*, is in rhymed verse. It is vigorous, humorous, and dramatic. Julia's words, depicting the wooing of Romeo, approach nearer to poetry than any other portion of the play, without, it must be confessed, getting very close to the mark.—

His courtship was so gentle and refined,  
So tender, so respectful and restrained,  
I could not choose but listen; and anon  
He whispered in my ears sweet falsities,  
Which we poor women, knowing but too well  
What truth they lack, yet cannot, will not doubt.  
Nightly he sought my latticed window bars,  
Entreats, complains, and almost feigns offence,  
While I, alas! gave willing ear to all.  
Like to a spoiled child he coaxeth me,  
And craves discourse within the bars, while I,  
Still doubting, as a maiden should, his vows,  
His truth, his honesty, at last consent.

Julia's address to her father is not wanting in tenderness or in passion. Romeo, robbed of his mistress, becomes almost as mad as Orlando. His words on hearing Julia speak bear some faint resemblance to those of his English double:—

'Tis Julia's voice makes music 'mid the trees :  
No sounds so sweet, so exquisite as these,  
Fall on the listening ear of those who love,  
Like echo of an angel's voice above.

A curious illustration of the state of society in Southern Europe is afforded when a dramatist dares present a cavalier, on whose behalf he endeavours to enlist sympathy, as offering to kill a young lady because she belongs to the family of his enemy, or show the castle of a private family as undergoing a regular siege from a hostile faction.

The literary merits of Mr. Cossens's book are not small; the verse, if irregular, is agreeable and melodious, and the entire production is scholarly. Like the former volume, it is privately printed, and like it also it has a bold and striking illustration by Mr. Du Maurier. Those fortunate enough to obtain the work will be able to indulge in a pleasant journey down one of the least-frequented by-paths of literature.

#### SURREY THEATRE.

A VERSION, by Mr. George Roberts, the adapter of 'Lady Audley's Secret,' of Mr. Fenn's story, entitled 'Ship Ahoy!' has been produced under

the same name at the Surrey Theatre. The story, intended to expose the manner in which sailors are sent to sea in rotten ships, abounds in startling situations and dramatic surprises. It is embarrassed rather than aided by some elaborate scenery, a shipwreck scene being introduced in one act, and a view of the destruction of the Liverpool landing-stage in another. Some compression of the dialogue, which is a little tedious, is to be recommended. When acted with more closeness and more moderation of style, and when divested of most of its scenic accessories, it will be a good work of its class. Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Forrester, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Fawn, were included in the cast. The piece achieved, so far as the audience was concerned, a complete triumph.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

MADAME CELESTE has re-appeared at the Adelphi, in the inevitable 'Green Bushes.'

MR. HALLIDAY writes to us, affirming that one scene of 'Richard Coeur de Lion' and a portion of a second are new, and partly written in blank verse. He complains of being attacked in our notice on the score of bad grammar. He will see on reference no such charge is brought against him.

CROYDON Theatre, now under the management of Mr. Charles Kelly, an actor who made recently some reputation in London, has re-opened, with a new drama by Mr. Tom Taylor, entitled 'The White Cockade.' This is a Jacobite piece, and intended, apparently, as a companion picture to 'Clancarty.' The scene of the principal action is Edinburgh after the battle of Sheriffmuir. A comedy by Messrs. Savile Clarke and Du Tereau, entitled 'Love Wins,' will be given on Monday next.

Most of the principal dramatic artists of Paris took part in the *bénéfice* to Mlle. Dejazet, which was, of course, a triumphant success. Upwards of 400 actors stood round the *bénéficiaire* when she was crowned. No less than 50,000 francs was taken, a sum which, large as it is, will probably be augmented by one half from other sources. The entertainment included, besides musical selections, a performance by M. Got, M. Delaunay, M. Talbot, Madame Favart, and Madame Provost-Ponsin, of 'Tartuffe'; 'Les Jurons de Cadillac,' given by M. Landrol and Mlle. Céline Montalond; and an act of 'Monsieur Garat,' a comedy written by M. Sardou for Mlle. Dejazet, in which the actress resumed her original rôle. In this piece, artists like M. Delannoy, M. Laferrière, M. Gil Péres, Mlle. Schneider, Mlle. Judic, and others of equal reputation, appeared as supernumeraries.

'LA PRINCESSE GEORGE' will shortly be revived at the Gymnase, for the *début* of a young comedienne, Mlle. Taillandier, recommended by M. Dumas fils for the rôle, first played by Madame Desclée. Mesdames Pierson and Angelo, MM. Pradeau and F. Achard, have rôles in the forthcoming comedy of MM. Meilhac and Halévy.

A FOLIE-VAUDEVILLE, by M. Paul Avenel, entitled 'Mimi-Chiffon,' produced at the Folies Marigny, is the only novelty of the past week in Paris.

A VERSION of the comic opera of M. Lecocq, forthcoming at the Variétés, will be given at the Criterion Theatre immediately after its production in Paris.

THE essay of the Théâtre Scribe in serious comedy has proved disastrous, and the house will be henceforth devoted to those *pièces de fantaisie* in which its previous success, under its former title, had been obtained.

'LA JEUNESSE DU ROI HENRI' is in rehearsal at the Théâtre Lyrique et Dramatique, as the Lyrique is now called. M. Desrioux, lent by MM. Offenbach and Sardou, now jointly managing the Gaité, will resume the part of the King of Navarre, of which he was the creator.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—S. D. G.—R.—C.—W. B. C.—A. H.—G. H.—J. W. H.—received.

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